"We Seek to Serve and Not to Compete"

Volume XV No. 2

FEBRUARY 1961

Price RUPEE ONE

Published every month by the Director of Information and Publicity, Fort St. George, Madras-9

MADRAS INFORMATION

ANNUAL 1961

Contents

	PAGE
Towards self-sufficiency in food *P. P. I. Vaidyanathan*	3
Freedom of the Press *V. K. Narasimhan*	7
A Resurgent Nation *S. Vijayalakshmi*	11
Power Projects under the Five-Year Plans *V. P. Appadurai*	17
Decentralisation of Administration *S. Krishnaswami Pillai*	21
Co-operation in Towns and Villages *V. Balasundram*	25
Industrial Development in Madras State *S. D. Paul*	29
Progress in Pictures	37
When British Civilians opposed English medium *K. Subramaniam*	45
Khadi—then and now *S. Parthasarathi*	51
Policeman—friend of the People *F. V. Arul*	55
State Transport *T. Srinivasan*	59
Slum Improvement *Capt. D. Gnanaolivu*	63

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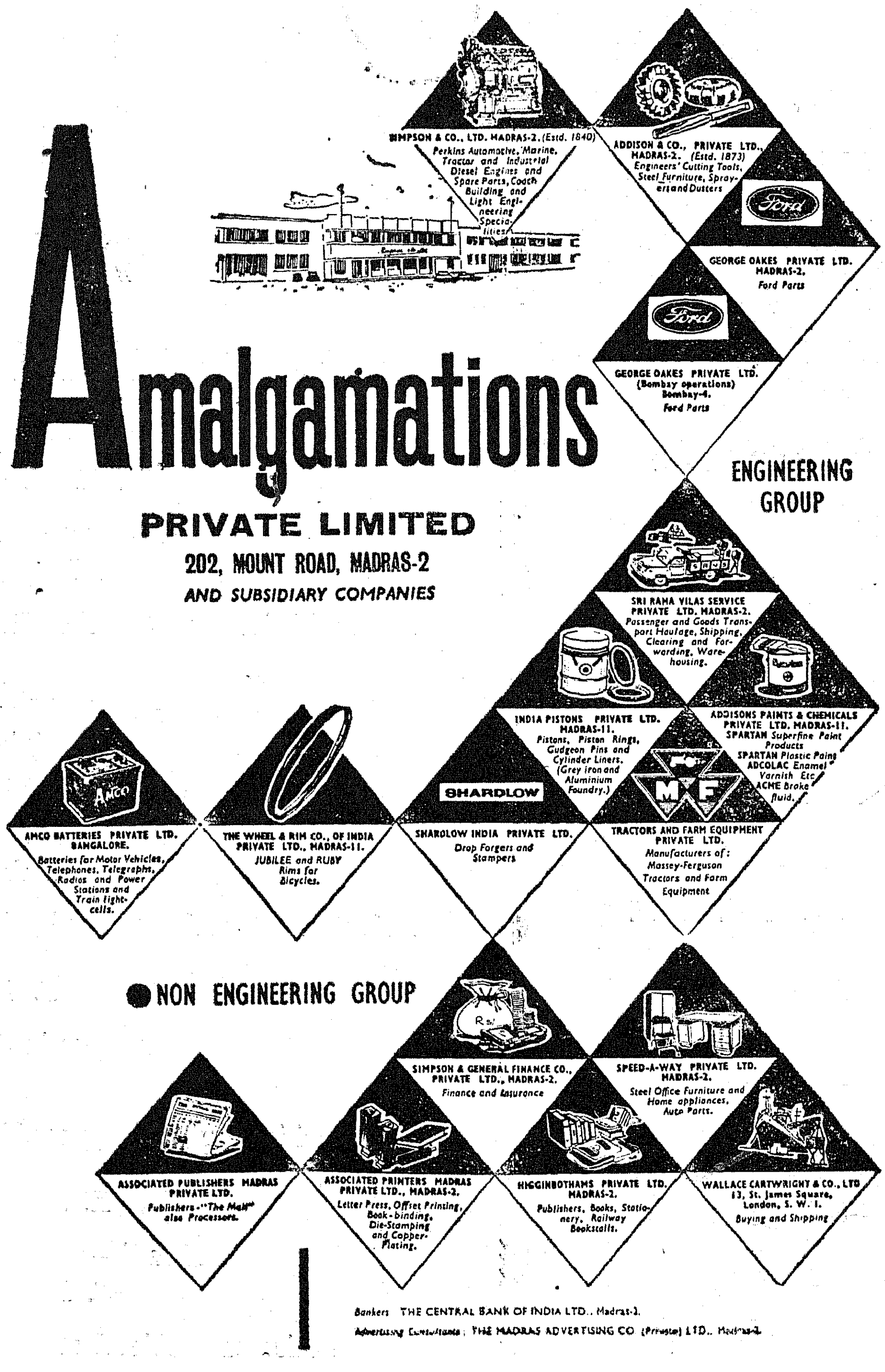
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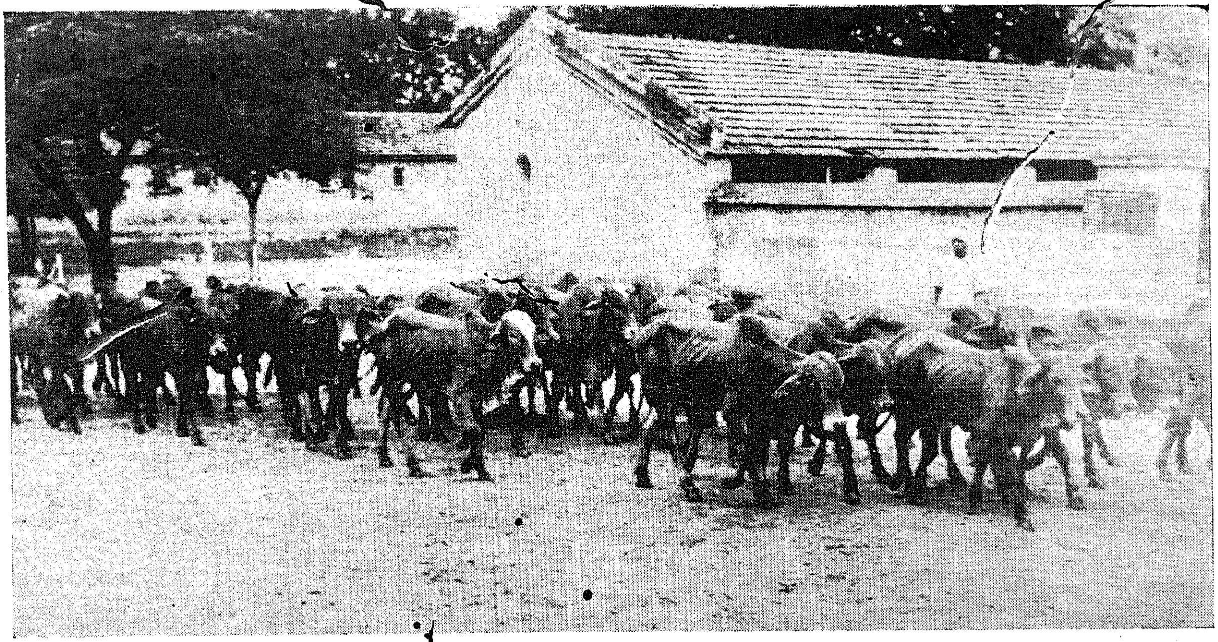


Sindhi herd at Hosur Cattle Farm

will break up into two separate pockets of self-sufficiency in wheat and in rice, and there may also be other minor pockets such as ragi and cholam.

Variable production

A third feature of our food position is that our production is highly variable. The average rice crop of Madras during the last decade used to be about 21 lakh tons and in an exceptionally favourable year, it could go up to 30 lakh tons. The variation is of the order of 30 per cent for this State. For India taken as a whole, a bad year often meant a rice crop of 22 million tons and a very good year meant a crop of 27 million tons, the variation thus being more than 20 per cent. If the country is really self-sufficient in the matter of food with a comfortable margin, the effect of the monsoon will not be felt on the food situation ; but unfortunately, when we are barely self-sufficient, a variation of about 20 per cent in the production is a serious factor which can upset all our calculations.

Rise in consumption

A fourth feature about our food situation is that the consumption appears to rise considerably. It is generally assumed that the demand for food is inelastic, because the people cannot eat more food in times of prosperity. That may be true of economically advanced countries ; but in an underdeveloped country, the demand for food is highly elastic. Thus in 1951, the total foodgrains available was 55 million tons which included an import of 4 million tons. Five years later, the production had gone up to 65 million tons; but still there was a deficit of a million tons. We may make an allowance for the increase in the population of about seven per cent during these five years ; but that does not account for the increase of about 20 per cent in the demand for foodgrains. So all planning has to take into account the fact that the consumption is also rapidly increasing. What the rate of this increase is, is anybody's guess. My own guess is that during the next decade, with the rapid industrialisation taking place and the general increase in the standard of living, the demand will rise at the rate of 4 per cent every year. This will be due to an annual increase of population of about 2 per cent and an annual increase in the per capita consumption which would account for another 2 per cent. This is more or less our experience

during the last 5 years when the demand has risen from 55 to 66 million tons, i.e., at the rate of 4 per cent per annum.

Buffer stocks

The position is further complicated by the existence of a large carry over of foodgrains from year to year. We know that large quantities are held over from one year to the other and this is economically necessary in order to iron out the differences in production from year to year. But unfortunately we do not have any precise data on the quantities which are kept by the trade, and by the better type of farmers, and we know still less about the circumstances under which these stocks appear on the market. The result is that it is quite possible to have a heavy crop one year and still feel the pinch, because a good portion of stocks was held over. The opposite may also happen although this is probably less likely.

So in the ultimate analysis self-sufficiency in foodgrains is a complex thing. It will not be achieved by merely producing as much foodgrains in one year as is normally consumed; but self-sufficiency can be achieved if over a period of years the average production of each crop is equal to the average demand and also allows for reasonable buffer stocks held by Government or the trade or the producer. Once this stage is reached, we will hear less of the food problem than we are doing now and the aim of all our planning has been to reach this level of production.

Increased Production

The next question which will naturally arise is whether we will be able to achieve this increased production. Our experience has shown that a large increase in agricultural production is possible if the cultivator co-operates. The methods by which the increase in production is to be brought about are not anything extraordinary but the practices usually followed by the better type of cultivators. I shall give only one example. The average production of rice per acre in Madras State is 1,300 lb. The corresponding all-India average is 816 lb. It would thus be seen that the average Madras cultivator is producing about 50 per cent more than the average Indian farmer and the conclusion follows that if the rest of India can adopt the same agricultural practices as are being done by the average Madras farmer, our deficit will be wiped out overnight. The analogy may be extended further beyond India. The average production of rice in India is 816 lb. per acre; whereas in Australia, it is 3,500 lb; in Italy and in Spain it is about 3,000 lb. Apart from these countries, even countries like Egypt and China show an average yield of 2,935 lb. and 2,337 lb. respectively. Pessimists may say that we cannot achieve the Australian or Italian level but certainly the average levels of production now prevailing in Egypt and China are well with in our reach, if only we exert ourselves. Moreover, only limited new resources are necessary for this purpose. With agricultural extension work intensified as is being done now, a doubling of the food production in India within the next 20 years can normally be expected.

Statistics of Production

There may be sceptics who may not readily accept the statistics of production during the plan period. But agricultural statistics of a time before planning was thought of may give an indication of the way things are moving. I shall compare the actual production figures for rice in the areas which comprise the present Madras State for a period of 4 years ending in 1942–43 and another 4-year period ending in 1958–59. From the climatic data available I can safely state that the average seasonal conditions of these 4-year periods were almost identical and so comparision of these two averages may give an idea how far we have progressed in our march towards self-sufficiency during these 16 years.

During the period 1937–42, the average production of foodgrains in the areas now comprising the Madras State was 37·37 lakh tons. This was less than the consumption and there was an average net import of 1·35 lakh tons every year. During

Woolsheep herd at Hosur Cattle Farm

the four-year period ending 1954–55, the average production of foodgrains in the present Madras State was 46 lakh tons and there was a net export from the State, mainly towards Kerala, of about 2·30 lakh tons every year. So during the last decade, we have transformed ourselves from the position of a deficit State with a deficit of 1·35 lakh tons to a surplus State of 2·30 lakh tons. Of course, this state of affairs represents the conditions in a fairly good agricultural season. Moreover, this change has not been brought about uniformly, but we seem to have crossed self-sufficiency line some time in 1954–55.

Growth of population

It should also be remembered that the population of our State has been steadily increasing at the rate of 1·4 per cent every year. This means that if the consumption of foodgrains is to be maintained at the same level, there should be an annual increase in production of 1·4 per cent. So we have been able to achieve not only this 1·4 per cent annual increase, but in addition to that we have been able to fill up the deficit, and even go beyond it and show a small surplus of 2·3 lakh tons.

During the First Plan, Madras State increased the production of foodgrains from 38 lakh tons to 44 lakh tons per year. During the Second Plan the level of production rose from 44 lakhs to 52 lakh tons; in other words our level of food production increased by 6 lakh tons during the First Plan and 8 lakh tons during the Second Plan, i.e., a sustained increase of about 4 per cent per annum, during this 10 year period. It might also be noted that this increase is not due to any change in the seasonal conditions, as separate allowance has been made in the statistics for the variations in the monsoons.

During Third Plan Period

We have now prepared fairly precise plans for the Third Plan period. We assume that the rate of increase of population may be even as high as 2 per cent per annum. We also assume that the general standard of living will increase by another 2 per cent per annum and thus there will be an overall increase in consumption of 4 per cent each year. To-day Madras State is consuming about 50 lakh tons of foodgrains out of a total production of about 52 lakh tons. If the rate of increase in consumption is 4 per cent per annum we would be consuming about 60 lakh tons at the end of the Third Plan and the target of an increase of 10 lakhs would maintain the *status quo*. But we have worked out the target of an increase of about 15 lakh tons so that we may have an ample margin to make up for adverse seasonal conditions, and if the season is good, to allow for liberal contribution for meeting food requirements of neighbouring States which are yet saddled with a large deficit.

Our target now is self-sufficiency in a year when the seasonal conditions are unfavourable, and we hope we would reach this goal by the end of the Third Plan.

INDIA'S FIRST WATCH FACTORY

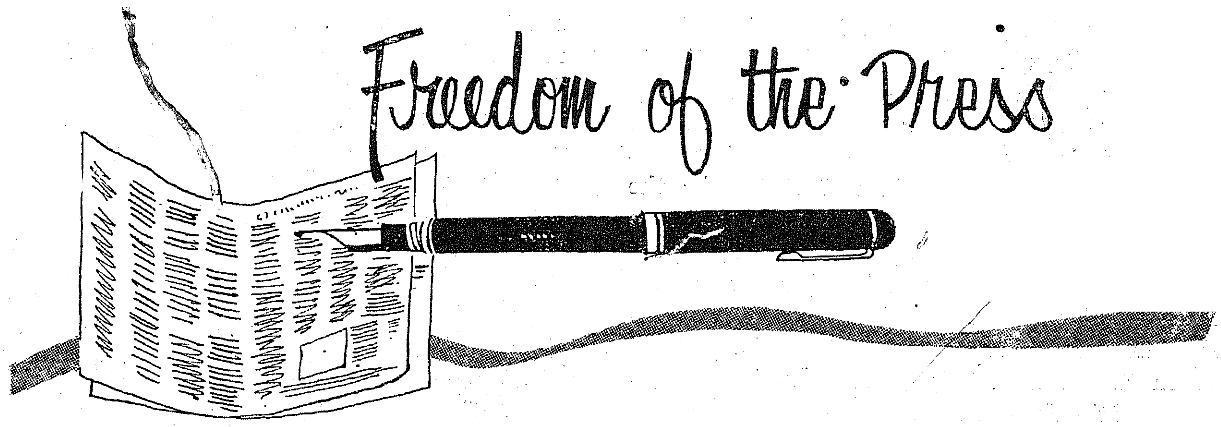
Work on the first watch factory in the public sector has been inaugurated in Bangalore.

To start with the factory will turn out 65,000 watches in the first year, Soon, output will go up to 240,000 and with an increase in shifts, the turnout can be made even larger to meet the needs of the market.

A Japanese company is giving technical help for the project. In four years' time, over 80 per cent of the components will be obtained from home production.

The watch factory will be an auxiliary to the Machine Tools factory, Bangalore.

Freedom of the Press



V. K. NARASIMHAN,
Assistant Editor, " The Hindu ".

FREEDOM of the Press has been regarded as one of the fundamental freedoms vital to the successful functioning of democratic institutions. A great American democrat said that if he had to choose between giving up a free press or popular Government, he would give up popular Government and retain a free press. This, of course, represents a purely hypothetical choice because it is unlikely that a Government that is not democratic will tolerate for long a genuinely free press. But in placing a free press above democratic Government what Jefferson meant to convey was that so long as the Press is free, there is a powerful means of correcting abuses in any Government. Where the Press is in chains, there is no limit to tyranny.

The question naturally arises: " Does this mean that there shall be no checks on the freedom of the Press at all in a democracy ? " A distinction must clearly be made between a freedom that is fundamental and a freedom that is absolute. It is implicit in the nature of all social rights and obligations that they cannot be absolute even when they have to be largely invoilable. When we speak of fundamental rights—and include freedom of speech and of the Press as one of them—what we really mean is that these rights are so important to the preservation of the individuality and integrity of the citizen that any restrictions on them must be clearly defined, and must be justifiable in terms of overwhelming public interest.

It will be seen that the fundamental rights listed in Chapter 3 of the Indian Constitution are subject also to limits which are defined in that Chapter. That in some cases the provisos attached to the fundamental rights are of such a character that the fundamental right ceases to be fundamental, can be easily argued. It may also be argued that in a developing society a rigid definition of fundamental rights may create embarrassing problems for Governments and Legislatures and make them dependent, as has happened in the United States, on judicial interpretation for an enlargement of their powers.

Fundamental Rights

So far as ' Freedom of the Press ' is concerned, the Indian Constitution does not, in terms, lay it down as a fundamental right in the manner in which it is laid down in the American Constitution. At the time the Indian Constitution was being drafted, members speaking for the Press urged for the specific inclusion of freedom of the Press as a fundamental right but it was argued by Dr. Ambedkar and others that the clause " freedom of speech and expression " embraced also the freedom of the Press. While this is correct so far as publication in the Press is concerned, the wider interpretation given to the term Freedom of the Press in the United States as including the right to information and the right of access to sources of information cannot obviously be read into the clause as embodied in the Indian Constitution.

Speaking purely from the point of view of the general public, which, in a sense, is the ultimate repository of political power in a democracy because it has the right to choose its legislators and rulers, it should be realised that without a really free Press the freedom of choice for the electorate may become utterly meaningless. The electorate in a democracy can exercise its rights periodically only if it is kept fully informed of the acts of omission and commission of the Government in power and has all the data on the basis of which it can form judgment about the performance of the Government. A free Press becomes thus vital to the functioning of democracy because without it the voters will have no means of knowing what is being done by the legislators and Ministers and the lapses or otherwise of those exercising power as representatives of the people.

Political Aspect

This, of course, is only one aspect of the freedom of the Press—the political aspect. In this sphere press freedom must mean the largest amplitude of freedom to give information to the public and to criticise the acts of authority.

That, by and large, the Indian Press has had this freedom during the past ten years cannot be doubted, but doubts have been raised by no less a person than Mr. C. D. Deshmukh whether the drift towards a socialist pattern in the country is compatible with the survival of a free press. The increasing dependence of the Press on Government advertisements and the subjection of newspapers, in their operations, to various controls with regard to quotas and licences for imports of newsprint, of machinery, and the like, which are incidental to a planned economy, create problems for the Press which are not present in the United States or the United Kingdom, or even in Japan, which has the most developed press in Asia.

Dangers of Dependence

Because the Indian Constitution severely limits the powers of direct control over the press which the Legislatures or the Government can exercise the danger is all the greater that subtler and unperceived methods of influencing the Press may be adopted or the Press may tend to become an uncritical supporter of the powers-that-be as a condition of survival. There are no easy means of safeguarding the Press against either of these dangers. The remedy in either case lies primarily in a strong and lively public opinion which looks upon the freedom of the Press not as a prerogative of those who run the newspapers but as the instrument of the public's own freedom to know and to judge. Very often discussions about press freedom have concentrated on the rights of those who conduct newspapers or of the journalists who work for the papers, but what is really involved is not so much the right of certain persons to publish or not to publish certain things—although that is important in itself—but whether the public should be permitted or not to receive certain facts or opinions. The difference between the press in a free country and the press in a totalitarian country is that while in the former the public has potentially, if not in actuality, access to information about all aspects of any problem, in a totalitarian country, the public can have access only to what the Government will allow it to know. If, therefore, we discuss the content of the Press freedom in terms of the public's right to have the freest access to information and opinion we shall be in a better position to judge what should be the limits to Press freedom. Obviously these limits should not be designed to protect any party Government in power from attacks by its opponents.

No curbs on the Press

The proviso to Article 19 (1) (*a*) says that the citizens' right to freedom of speech and expression granted by the Article shall not "affect the operation of any existing law, or prevent the State from making any law, in so far as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right........in the interests of the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence". The terms "in the interests of the security of the State", "friendly relations with foreign States", and "incitement to an offence" were added to the original proviso contained in the Constitution of 1950 by an amendment in 1951. When this amendment was being discussed there was an outcry in Parliament that the extension

of the State's powers to control the Press envisaged by these additional phrases presented a grave threat to the freedom of the press. It was, however argued for the Government that the grant of these powers under the Constitution did not mean that legislation was imminent for exercising those powers. Actually the amendment was followed by a new Press Act called the Press (Objectionable Matter) Act which replaced the old Press Act against which the Indian nationalist press had agitated since 1930. It is some years since even the Press (Objectionable Matter) Act was allowed to lapse and at the moment there is no specific Central legislation directed against the Press as such in regard to what it may publish. Even in the States laws specially directed against the Press are few, the notable exceptions being a recent Punjab Act which contains powers for imposing pre-cenorship on the Press and prohibiting the entry of any newspapers into the State. These are avowedly powers to be exercised in an emergency but there is no doubt they are a serious restriction on the freedom of the Press and can hardly be defended in terms of the right guaranteed in the Constitution.

Inhibiting Factors

At the moment the dangers to Press freedom come not so much from legislation directed against publications in the Press but indirectly from such laws as the Registration of Newspapers Act, the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) Act and the Newspaper Price-Page Control Act. To the extent some of these laws seek to impose arbitrary restrictions on the internal economics of newspapers and severely control their freedom to operate according to what they consider to be in the best interests of their readers, we must regard these measures as seriously undermining the freedom of the Press.

The problem in India, it must be recognised, is that we have a Press which is yet to grow to its full stature. Although in terms of the number of newspapers the Indian Press is as large as in any other major country, in terms of total circulations and the number of copies read per thousand of population, India comes almost at the bottom of the list. The conditions responsible for this state of affairs are obvious enough. A low level of literacy and an equally low level of per capita income are not exactly calculated to promote the growth of the press. But both these factors are continually changing and above all the growth of democratic institutions is stimulating public interest on the widest possible scale in national and local affairs. This factor by itself is bound to stimulate the growth of the Press. The fact that in the past five years newspaper circulations in India have been steadily going up is a welcome sign, but the growth is not fast enough and it is beyond doubt that this growth will be much faster if only the Indian Press could obtain the newsprint and the printing equipment it wants in adequate quantities at reasonable prices. That even in a country like Britain there should be complaints in the press against the high cost of newsprint shows how much it acts as an inhibiting factor in India. Those who have professed to champion the cause of small newspapers in this country for the sake of variety in the press and the maximum scope for expression of opinion should concentrate more on securing newsprint and other facilities for the smaller newspapers at cheaper cost instead of directing their animus against so-called larger papers which have yet to reach anything like the mass circulation of the British or the Japanese Press.

The Yellow Press

So far as the content of Freedom of the Press is concerned, as I have said earlier, the limiting factors today are not constitutional or statutory. They are partly organisational and very largely inherent in the economics of the Indian Press as it exists today. Very few papers are able to afford the cost of an adequate news service. There is too much dependence on the services of a single news agency and on material provided by interested parties, whether Government or other agencies. Aggressive, independent reporting, which is the hallmark of a free Press, is yet to develop. It is this which will ultimately determine the content of Press Freedom.

I have so far dealt with the limits to restrictions on the Press primarily from the political point of view. But those surveying the Indian Press including what may be called the 'Yellow Press'— and there is no doubt that we have a Yellow

Press, though not of the magnitude in some Western countries—may well ask whether there are not flagrant cases of abuse of the Freedom of the Press especially through the publication of salacious and obscene material and through publications avowedly preaching hatred against one section of the people or another. We have also been familiar with a type of journalism which thrives on unsavoury gossip about personalities in the public eye from politicians to film stars.

No simple remedy

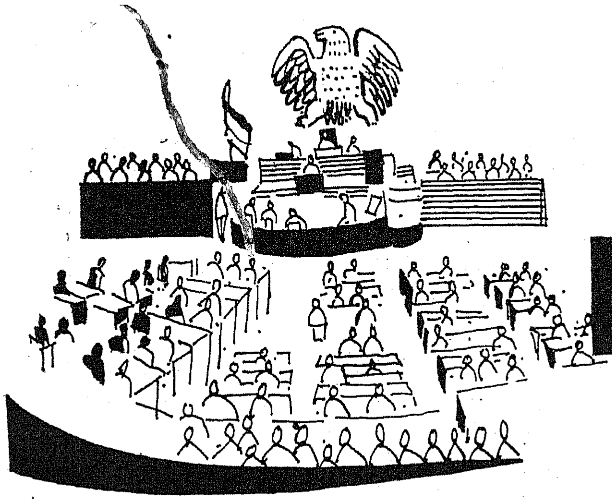
There is no simple remedy for dealing with this evil, which is by no means confined to India. In most cases an intelligent reading public treats such publications with the contempt they deserve and most of them die a well-deserved early death. But some of them do manage to survive and acquire a certain clientele by offering a mixture of sex, crime and sensational gossip, which is responsible for the mass circulations of some papers in the West. Where such publications violate the law of the land—the law against defamation, slander, obscenity or class hatred—the processes of the law have to be set in motion against the papers concerned. One suspects that the authorities are inclined to be a little too indulgent towards the 'yellow' publications because of the unhealthy publicity which such legal proceedings are likely to receive and the uncertain outcome of such actions. The black-mailer and the slanderer as well as the peddler of hatred have thriven on the knowledge that the victims of their malice are reluctant to face the publicity that will attend a legal prosecution. Nevertheless, unless a few persons occasionally take the risk and incur the expense involved in exposing these malefactors, and proved offenders are punished severely, there is little chance of checking the evil.

Voluntary Regulation

The main problem, however, is one of raising the level of public taste so that the average reader will give short shrift to publications which are likely to degrade or corrupt the mind of the reader. Statutory prohibition is not an effective remedy because it will either drive such publications underground or is likely to be used to suppress publications inconvenient to the Government in power. In matters like raising the tone of the press and promoting something like journalistic ethics, voluntary regulation is the only proper course to adopt, though it is not easy as the British Press Council has found. The Swedish Press has a Court of Honour which has functioned successfully for over 25 years, but obviously Sweden has not had a yellow press to deal with. In India the problem at the moment is confined to a small marginal section of the press. Before it develops serious proportions, those connected with the Press as well as those interested in the growth of a healthy and responsible Press should jointly consider how it should be tackled.

FAMILY PLANNING

The need for taking the family planning programme to villages, convincing the masses of its benefits and providing them with facilities for the purpose at a low cost, has been stressed by the Union Minister for Food and Agriculture Sri S.K. Patil. The programme is no longer a controversial issue in the country and has come to be accepted as a necessary social obligation. The present annual increase of 8 millions in the country's population has inevitably serious socio-economic implications not only on the rate of growth of population, but also on the employment situation, he has stated.



MADRAS

A Resurgent Nation

S. VIJAYALAKSHMI, M.A., M.LITT.

WEST Germany presents today, a spectacle of economic prosperity and social security! Germany emerged after one of the most destructive and shocking wars. An inquiring visitor from Asia is struck by the breath taking economic recovery of West Germany. One cannot find the scars of the war there. But behind the affluence of the country and her people, there is a story of division, destruction, desolation and privation. Those who had visited Germany before the war will find today, the country cut into two. In the place of Berlin, the pre-war capital of United Germany, we find a divided city of eastern and western sectors.* After visting West Berlin one has to travel across East Germany to go to the West German Republic ; for Berlin is situated in East Germany. One is reminded of the tyrannous rule of Nazi Feuhrer : the days and nights spent by the people in the concentration camps, in prisons and in exile.

How is it, the country that was totally destroyed and wiped out of existence had made such quick recovery both economically and psychologically ? Germany had been defeated twice within a period of 27 years, but appeared to be recovering their spirit and their economic capacity very fast! The Germans had not merely rehabilitated, but had regalvanised their economy to become the workshop of the entire world. West Germany has helped our Government to build the steel plant in Rourkela. German technicians are highly useful in our programme for industrialisation. West German machines have facilitated our work in Neyveli.

Quick Recovery

What is the secret of this miracle of economic recovery ? West Germany is the richest country in western Europe. Her affluence has begun to embarrass her own Government. Germans admittedly had certain advantages over other developing countries. It is true that the Germans obtained Marshall Aid. It is true again that the Germans were in every way blessed ; in spite of their massive industrial background being destroyed by the war, the German knowledge of industiral processes and techniques was left intact. " Germany can be destroyed but not their skill ", exclaimed somebody. Germany was in possession of useful raw materials, very vital for industrial and technological development, such as coal, lignite, potash; water power and to some extent iron ore. Her other equally important assets were a wealth of industrial skill and managerial talent and a long tradition of industrial production

* Eastern Sector : East Berlin.
Western Sector : West Berlin.

combined with deep knowledge of the ways of machines and technical know-how. To this reservoir of highly skilled labour, was added the Marshall Aid.

In the evolution of human progress experience counts for much ; and the feel of science and industry came to the German people long before they reached any country of the East.

Will to work

But the miracle of economic recovery is dependent largely on the German people's will to work hard. The prosperity of Germany cannot be accounted for entirely by her greater recuperative powers and resilience which stemmed from her longer scientific traditions and larger reservoir of industrial and commercial techniques and know-how. Marshall Aid and Ludwig Erhard's courageous currency reform might have helped them to recover far quickly. But the human factor counted much more. A nation can never be rebuilt in such a short time without certain qualities and discipline on the part of her people. The efforts of the German people breathed new life into their crippled and war-torn economy. The Germans proudly exclaimed : " Every Marshall Aid dollar spent in Germany had resulted in ten to twenty dollars worth of goods produced and services rendered." As a people, the Germans organised their country and themselves. In rehabilitating the shattered economy machines mattered—but men counted more—the spirit of man that played a vital role. They had a strong will and purpose, capable of being dedicated to a supreme task.

Memorial for Rubble Women

The single-minded devotion and the sense of duty could be illustrated by citing one instance which is a monument to the industry and capacity of the German people. A foreigner who makes a trip to West Berlin, is bound to visit one instructive spot there if his or her mission is something more than that of a casual tourist : It is the Memorial For Rubble Women ! This was created in honour of the women who cleared the rubble (ruins) of West Berlin in 1945. The damage caused by the war was unimaginable. In 1945, when the war stopped, the rubble had to be cleared before the task of reconstruction could commence. All the men were either killed, or they were fighting in Russia or were taken prisoners. When no men were available, this arduous task had to be performed by the women who alone were available. This tremendous responsibility of the preliminary work had to be undertaken by the women of West Berlin. The women cleared all the rubble. There are eight hills of rubble in the suburb of West Berlin, all cleared by these women and brought from the town. Still, a lot more has to be removed. Out of the bricks and stones from the ruins was built a memorial to the services of these women. It consists of a big mound, with a stone statue of a ' Rubble Woman ' seated with spade in her hand so essential for any work of construction. The appearance of this woman, her attire, the war shoes in her legs, and the expression in her face are quite indicative of the poverty, suffering, and privation of that period. The expression in her face indicates above all the determination, the iron will and supreme self-confidence. The ' Rubble Woman ' in Germany reminds the coming generations that a country can prosper only when her people, especially the women, played their part in the nation-building activities ; for they alone constitute the moral force in any country.

Shortage of Man Power

West Germany is a Federal Republic. The Federal Government is manned by the Christian Democratic Party. Eleven States which constitute the Federal Republic have their own governments which are mostly coalition ministries of Christian Democrats and Social Democrats and the Liberals. The Government of the Federal Republic had enlarged the democratic sector so well that equality of opportunity exists in abundance. With a policy of full employment and basic minimum income, everybody leads more or less a satisfied life. There are 500,000 work places or jobs to be filled up in the country. For every unemployed applicant, five vacant workplaces are available. More than 130,000 foreign nationals from Spain, Italy and Greece work in the factories, workshops and other projects in West Germany. Shortage of man power was very acute in Germany immediately after the war and the problem of Germany is one of labour saving.

The shortage of man-power had necessitated the mechanization of agriculture. Even among the young peasants, the tendency is to acquire skill and secure a job in a factory which is more advantageous in terms of emoluments. An Asian or an Indian visitor is amazed to find a German farmer working all by himself on the field with tractors, trucks and other agricultural machines; he is busy turning the earth, cutting grass, carting hay and attending to thousand and one duties. Sometimes his only companion in the farm work will be his wife! It is this dearth of human being that had created a crisis in agriculture in Germany. Mechanization is hardly beneficial to small holders. The German peasants are very fortunate in one respect. The Government gives them enormous assistance. It is said that the 60 per cent of the amount spent on agriculture is given to them as subsidy by the State under what is known as the '*Green Plan*'. This is a ten-year plan which is intended to assist the peasants to buy all the equipments needed for mechanizing agriculture.

Rural Areas not Neglected

Rapid industrialization has not resulted in the neglect of rural parts. A cohesion exists in the society. The villager never feels that he is left behind in the race by his urban counterpart. The means of communication, the availability of radio, television and all the modern amenities of the industrialised society have made the village folk feel that they are not isolated but are part of the same community.

A skilled industrial worker is never unemployed. Though things cost a lot in Germany, the workers or the wage earners earn enough to maintain themselves. With abundant opportunity for work and means of livelihood, a working man can hardly be distinguished from a professor or a diplomat or an industrialist in the matter of the quality of the dress materials.

Social Welfare Work

Education is free up to 14 years. While the higher university education is considered to be very vital, the aptitude on the part of the young people to acquire some skill or specialised knowledge within a minimum period and to secure jobs is widely prevalent in Germany.

The local or community governments have achieved tremendous progress in the field of social welfare. Their care for providing substantially for the community is worthy of emulation by the local governments of all lands. More than 85 per cent of the local or community governments in the towns and villages are manned by the Social Democrats. Not only the destitute and the disabled, but the young, the old, the widows and the children benefit by the schemes of the local governments for social welfare. The welfare work is strictly non-partisan in West Germany. A Central Organisation called "Workers' Welfare Organization" or "Arbeiter Wolfhart" in German is responsible for the social welfare work.

This *Arbeiter Wolfhart* co-ordinates the social welfare work of the Catholics, Red Cross, Jewish, Labour and other bodies, who aim at providing social benefits to the needy. The *Arbeiter Wolfhart* had played an important role in influencing social legislation and had also influenced to a great extent the general social life of the country. It also sponsors and encourages welfare projects for the benefit of the working people.

Community Centres

The municipalities, county and village governments have done their best to improve the well-being of the community. The *Arbeiter Wolfhart* and the local Governments have co-operated to provide for the welfare of all categories of people living in towns and villages. A visitor from foreign countries is struck by the sense of responsibility, the earnestness and sincerity of the representatives of the community or local government.

The socialist conception of the welfare of the community has been introduced in several towns and villages through the establishment of the community centres. The Mayors of the innumerable towns and villages known as *Burgermeisters* have been instrumental in building the community centres, homes for old people, youth and children everywhere.

Every service at the community centre is rendered at very nominal rates so that people who cannot afford certain amenities in their homes are able to get them in the centre. Families

who do not have their own facilities for bathing or provision for preserving food make full use of the facilities available at the centre. The villagers and town folk get all help at the community centre in the form of best medical attention both for the adults and children. Mechanical fittings in the community centres help the villagers to weigh their agricultural produce and make announcement about the availability of stocks.

Care of Children

In an industrialised society the material comfort and the higher standard of living depend on increased emoluments. So both men and women in the families go to work. The real problem will be to look after the children of these working people. In West Berlin, Mannheim, Frankfurt and other European cities, one hears about the 'Key Children'. These children go to schools in the morning with keys around their necks so that when they return home in the evening, they can open the doors themselves, for their mother or father will be back from their work only late in the evening.

Hence the care of the children has become the special responsibility of the Government and the community. This has resulted in the establishment of number of child welfare centres, special schools, institutions for children and Kindergarten recreation and holiday homes for children of varying age groups. In these institutions vocation courses are organised for these children. Besides, education and health, the providing of the home atmosphere for these children which they lack is an arduous task for the Government. This special responsibility of looking to the health, education, the development of children had necessitated the training of several hundreds of nurses every year who are required to look after these specialised institutions. The infant mortality in West Germany is only 4 per cent and it would be amazing to know that it is only two per cent in Sweden!

Functions of Trade Unions

The trade unions have ceased to be mere bargaining bodies. The German Federation of Trade Unions is the parent organisation of almost all trade unions in the Federal Republic. In an affluent society, where every body is assured of a basic minimum, and where the working class has realised most of its objectives, the trade unions have different functions to perform. When Karl Marx proclaimed that the workers and peasants should become owners of production, the conditions in the world were different. Today the workers' movement has become very strong. Germany has a network of institutions and specialised schools for workers' education. The activity of the German Trade Unions in the field of workers' education scheme (which is being promoted in India now) is an interesting study.

This scheme of workers' education in the trade union schools enables the trade union members to continue their education even while they are employed full-time.

Trade Unions have fought for the implementation of social welfare schemes and for better industrial relations. The worker can join any evening class in his town for a period of six months or one year and receive instruction in higher technical courses, besides general knowledge. This education helps to acquaint active trade union members, especially officials, with labour legislation, economics, social problems, workers' participation in the management and the principles of trade union movement. Besides this instruction, special conferences and group discussions take place. In West Germany there are three academies in Dortmund, Hamburg and Frankfurt. They are attached to universities for scientific studies. The State pays for them. If students studying here are sent by trade unions, they get help from the trade unions. Special foundations have been arranged by the Trade Unions for this task of education. These courses, also, besides imparting or transmitting essential knowledge of economics, trade unions and human relations in industry, give supplementary training related to particular industries.

Tradition of Science

The politically conscious people in the (Bundes) Federal Republic of West Germany, are aware that democratic principles and the education of responsible, democratic citizens had been miserably neglected in Germany in the recent past. The

efforts of the trade unions in the field of adult education which they call *social education* through their schools and institutions have acquired special significance.

In every sphere of life, whether literature or philosophy, industry or specialized research, Germany ranks very high and has been a source of inspiration for developing nations. The progress of industry or agriculture or any other thing depends on much more than on men and machines; for the output of factories is linked closely with the work of laboratories and of research students in the back-room of science. While rich cultural traditions are inspiring there is also the vital tradition of science that we lack in our country. This is the lesson that West Germany will teach us.

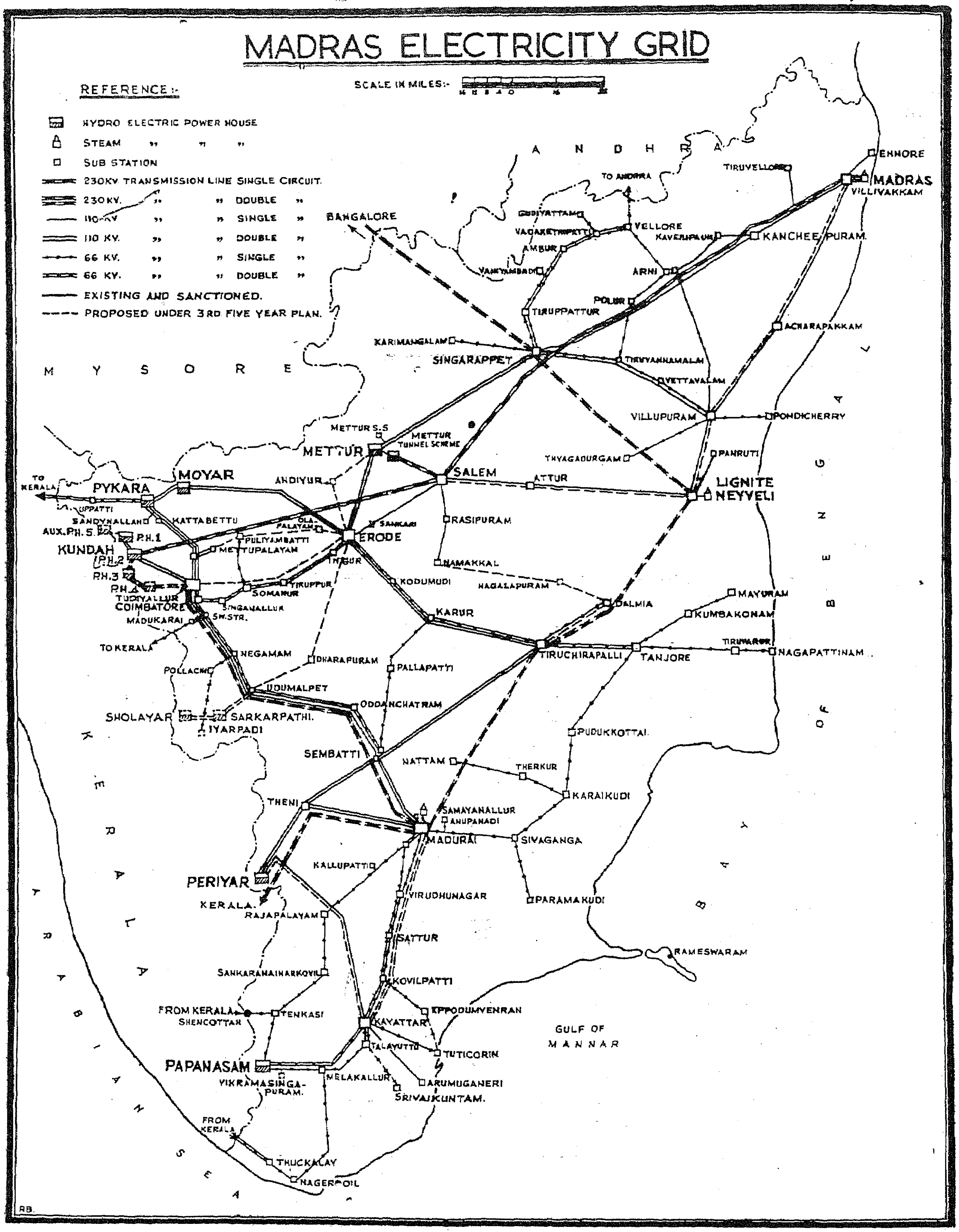
Wherever nation-building goes on
you'll find

ASHOK LEYLAND COMETS

at work

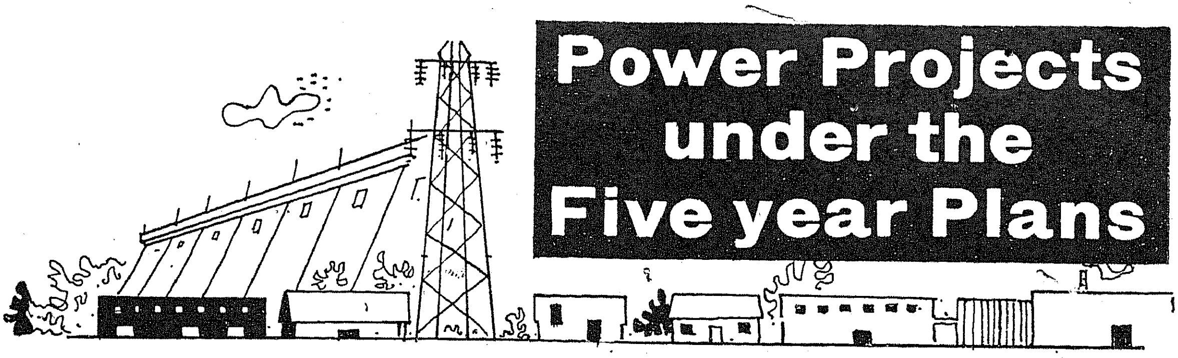
ASHOK
TRUCKS Leyland BUSES

ASHOK LEYLAND LIMITED
ENNORE, MADRAS


MADRAS ELECTRICITY GRID
REFERENCE:-
SCALE IN MILES:-
HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER HOUSE
STEAM " " "
SUB STATION
230KV TRANSMISSION LINE SINGLE CIRCUIT.
230KV. " " DOUBLE "
110 KV " " SINGLE "
110 KV. " " DOUBLE "
66 KV. " " SINGLE "
66 KV. " " DOUBLE "
EXISTING AND SANCTIONED.
PROPOSED UNDER 3RD FIVE YEAR PLAN.
A N D H R A
M Y S O R E
K E R A L A
A R A B I A N S E A
B A Y O F B E N G A L
GULF OF MANNAR
ENNORE
TIRUVELLORE
MADRAS
VILLIVAKKAM
TO ANDHRA
GUDIYATTAM
VELLORE
KAVERIPAK
KANCHEE PURAM.
AMBUR
VANIYAMBADI
ARNI
POLUR
TIRUPPATTUR
ACHARAPAKKAM
BANGALORE
KARIMANGALAM
SINGARAPPET
TIRUVANNAMALAI
VETTAVALAM
VILLUPURAM
PONDICHERRY
METTUR S.S
METTUR
METTUR TUNNEL SCHEME
PANRUTI
THYAGADURGAM
SALEM
ATTUR
LIGNITE NEYVELI
TO KERALA
PYKARA
MOYAR
ANDIYUR
UPPATTI
SANDYNALLAH
KATTABETTU
AUX.PH.5
P.H.1
KUNDAH
P.H.2
P.H.3
P.H.4
ERODE
RASIPURAM
METTUPALAYAM
PULIYAMPATTI
INGUR
NAMAKKAL
TUDIYALLUR
COIMBATORE
SOMANUR
TIRUPPUR
KODUMUDI
NAGALAPURAM
SINGANALLUR
MADUKARAI
DALMIA
MAYURAM
KUMBAKONAM
KARUR
TO KERALA
NEGAMAM
DHARAPURAM
PALLAPATTI
TIRUCHIRAPALLI
TANJORE
TIRUVARUR
NAGAPATTINAM
POLLACHI
UDUMALPET
ODDANCHATRAM
SHOLAYAR
SARKARPATHI.
IYARPADI
PUDUKKOTTAI
SEMBATTI
NATTAM
THERKUR
KARAIKUDI
THENI
SAMAYANALLUR
ANUPANADI
MADURAI
SIVAGANGA
PERIYAR
KERALA.
KALLUPATTI
RAJAPALAYAM
VIRUDHUNAGAR
PARAMAKUDI
SATTUR
RAMESWARAM
SANKARANAINARKOVIL
KOVILPATTI
EPPODUMVENRAN
FROM KERALA
SHENCOTTAH
TENKASI
KAYATTAR
TALAYUTTU
TUTICORIN
PAPANASAM
VIKRAMASINGA-PURAM.
MELAKALLUR
ARUMUGANERI
SRIVAIKUNTAM.
FROM KERALA
THUCKALAY
NAGERCOIL
RB.

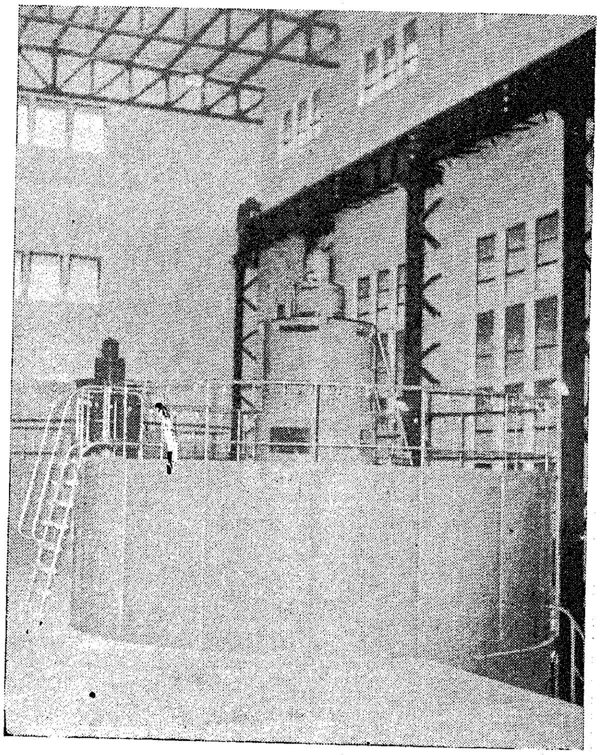
MADRAS INFORMATION Vol. XV NO. 2 Feb. 1961.

Power Projects under the Five year Plans



V. P. APPADURAI, B.A., M.I.E. (India),
Chief Engineer for Electricity,
Madras State Electricity Board.

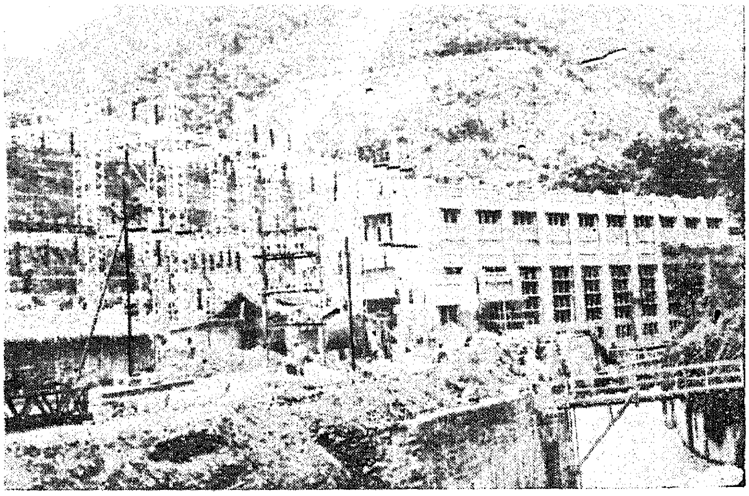
IN the matter of development and utilization of the power resources, Madras has an impressive record. The State ranks first in rural electrification and in hydro-power output and third in overall power production in the whole country. The salient feature of power development in the State is the unified Grid system connecting the seven hydro and the two thermal stations which ensures both economy in utilising the storages at the various reservoirs and conserving coal and steady and uniform supply conditions over the entire State. Table I gives the achievements under the Five-Year Plans.



Interior view showing the generating units

TABLE I.

	At the beginning of I Plan, 31-3-51	*At the end of I Plan,* 31-3-56	*At the end of II Plan,* 31-3-61
Generation—			
Installed generating capacity in MW.	156	256	571
Aggregate demand in MW.	130	208	560
Units generated in millions.	630	1,053	2,500
Transmission—			
Length of HT Lines in miles.	4,355	7,343	15,000
Length of LT Lines in miles.	3,580	8,128	21,000
Distribution—			
Number of consumers in lakhs.	2·5	4·26	8
Sub-stations including distribution transformers.	1,647	3,862	10,150
Rural Electrification—			
Number of villages electrified.	1,613	3,320	10,500
Number of agricultural pumpsets connected.	14,373	32,440	116,000
Finance—			
Capital outlay in crores ..	30·96	54·01	131
Gross revenue in crores ..	3·18	5·94	15·21



Periyar Power Station

It may be seen that during the Second Plan period the installed capacity, length of lines, number of villages electrified and gross revenue all have been more than doubled. During this period three more power stations, viz., Periyar, Kundah No. 1 and Kundah No. 2 were added to the Grid and a 30,000 KW set added to the existing Madras Thermal Station. Records were established in completing these in such a short time.

Third Plan Projects

Industrial development is growing fast in the country both in the public and private sectors and this is far outreaching power development. This has been the case in almost all the States in the recent years. In Madras State during the Third Plan period large scale industrial development requiring large blocks of power has been programmed. To meet this ever increasing demand a number of schemes have been drawn up, estimated to cost Rs. 100·19 crores as compared to the estimated outlay of Rs. 77 crores for the Second Plan schemes and Rs. 30·68 crores for the First Plan schemes. Table II gives the projects approved by the Planning Commission for implementation during the Third Plan period, their outlay and the benefits.

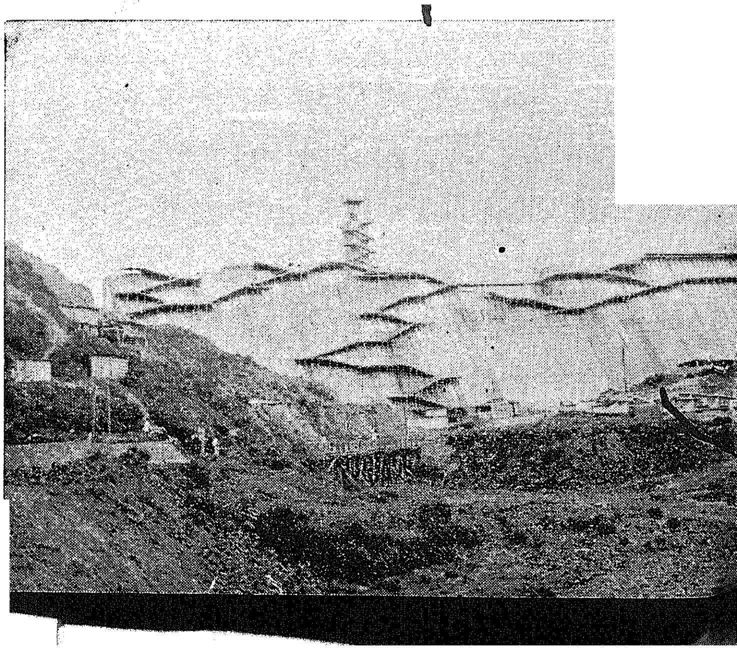
TABLE II.

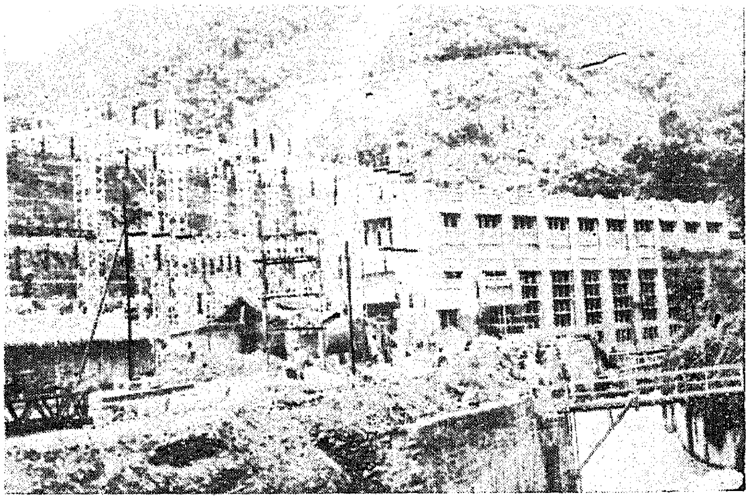
Serial number and name of scheme	*Plan provision* (RUPEES IN CRORES.)	*Benefits in III Plan in MW*
1 Periyar Hydro Project ..	0·12	..
2 Kundah, Stages I & II ..	2·48	..
3 Sandynallah Reservoir Scheme	0·59	..
4 Mettur Tunnel Scheme ..	5·80	100
5 Kundah, Stage III	23·06	245
6 Periyar, Stage III	0·94	35
7 Anamalai Project (Parambikulam).	5·00	95
8 Transmission and Distribution Project.	60·00	..
9 Loans to Licensees	2·00	..
10 Investigation of new shemes ..	0·20	..
Total ..	100·19	475

Hydro-electric Projects

The Mettur Tunnel Scheme is to utilise the irrigation discharge of 20,000 cusecs at Mettur Dam to develop seasonal power for about 7 months from July to January in the year. During this period the storages in the Kundah and Pykara Basin will be conserved to the extent necessary for utilisation in the summer months for firming up the Mettur power. Based on discussions with the Central Water and Power Commission the scheme is proposed to be developed in two stages: The first stage which involves the construction of a power-house with an installed capacity of 100 MW in two units and utilising 10,000 cusecs will be completed during the Third Plan period. The civil engineering works will be completed for both the stages so that later on two more units can be added. The first stage on completion will add to the Grid an energy potential of 385 million units. Power generated from this station will be fed into the Grid at Salem.

Emerald Dam





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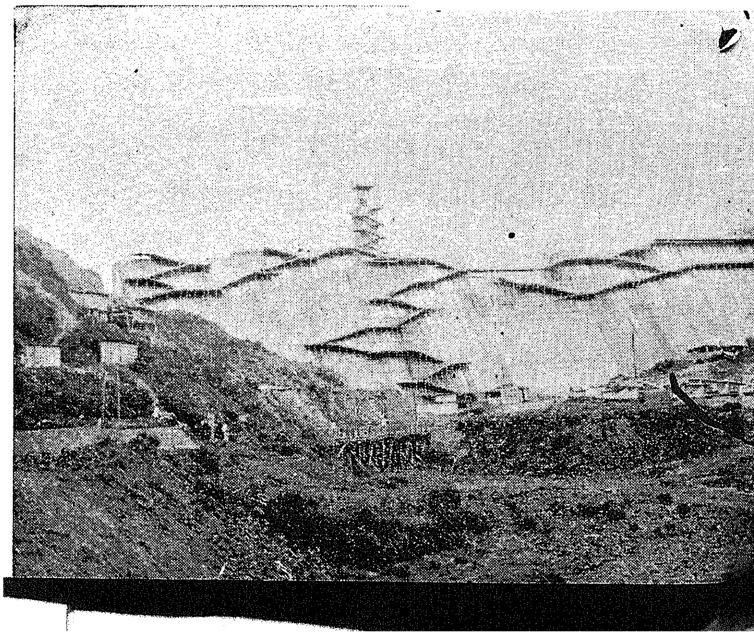


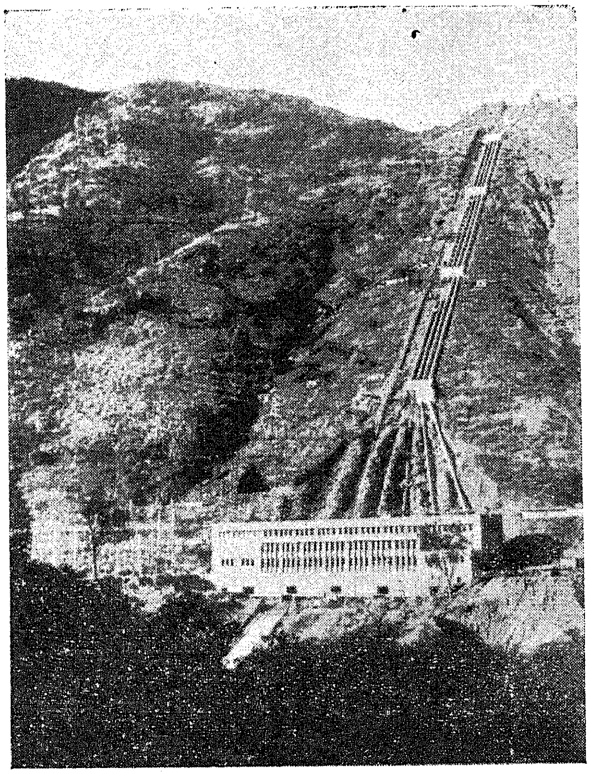
The capacity of this station will be augmented with three more generating sets of 50,000 KW each during the Third Plan period and this additional capacity in full released to Madras Grid so that by the end of Third Plan Period Neyveli will be able to spare 300,000 KW to the Madras Grid when the installed capacity of the station is increased to 400,000 KW.

Formation of Super Grid

The more important of the transmission lines of Voltages 66 KV and above programmed can be seen from the Grid map. Perhaps the most important feature of the transmission scheme for the Third Plan is the formation of 230 KV Super Grid. This will facilitate effective utilization of power within the State and also efficient interchange of power between Madras and its neighbouring States. The Super Grid will necessitate the construction of 230 KV line from Neyveli to Singarapet, Neyveli to Trichy, Trichy to Madurai, Madurai to Tudiyalur and Tudiyalur to Kundah IV. Besides the above, the Kundah Power Station II, III and IV will be inter-connected at 230 KV. It is also proposed to interconnect Madras and Mysore and Madras and Kerala by 230 KV transmission lines. The inter-connection between Madras and Andhra is to be taken up later. Initially it is proposed to consider the possibility of interchange of 50,000 KW between Madras and Mysore and an equal amount between Madras and Kerala. Singarapet and Madurai will form the linking points with Bangalore (Mysore State) and Peermedu (Kerala State) respectively.

Atomic Plant

Even after the Third Plan schemes are completed, Madras will still be in deficit of power. The existing hydro-*cum*-thermal grid will have to be suitably extended to meet further needs. The economical schemes within the State and the inter-state schemes should be taken up and completed. Mysore and Kerala States which are liberally endowed by nature with Hydro-Electric sites when fully developed may be able to spare a small quantum of power initially. This will not be adequate to meet our needs. Further with the growth of industrial development in their own States, they may need additional power and consequently be forced to reduce their quantum of export to Madras, if not cut off altogether. Under these circumstances setting up of an atomic plant of 250,000 KW capacity in Madras State is imperative, especially as the assured power supply resulting therefrom will give a fillip to the establishment of new industries and expansion of the existing units with the concomitant increase in productivity and standard of living.



Kundah Power House No. 2

FISHERIES INSTITUTE

The Central Institute of Fisheries Education, one of the biggest training institutions in Asia, is being set up in Bombay. It will invite trainees from all Asian countries for comprehensive courses in fisheries. United Nations Special Project Fund has given substantial aid in establishing the Institute.

Decentralisation of Administration

S. KRISHNASWAMI PILLAI,
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Rural Development and Local Administration.

The word " administration " is derived from the latin word " ministrare " which means to manage. In its widest application, it covers the whole art of carrying into effect any policy, plan or undertaking whether conceived by Government or a local body or a public or private agency. It is the art of management—not only the management of a factory or an office but even of human affairs. Administration in a country is a part of life of that country. The administration of human affairs is the " Government " of a country. Democracy is a form of Government in which the supreme power is vested in the people collectively and is administered by them or by officers appointed by them.

The transfer of Governmental power on August 15, 1947, from the British to Indian hands had meant in effect the handing over of the keys of administration to the people. The power of administration, no doubt, passed on immediately to the people's representatives at the Centre and State levels. It could not, however, immediately travel to levels below that of the State.

Growth of Local Bodies

Under the British rule, the administration became centralised and rapid growth of communications and the impact of industrial revolution in the west accelerated this process. A highly centralised form of administration was defended as leading to more uniform and refined administrative practices; quicker execution and a sense of unity in the nation. In due course, however, the Britishers felt the imperative need for establishing " Local Funds " for " local improvements ". They also found that local interest, supervision and care are necessary to success in the management of funds devoted to education, sanitation, medical relief and local public works. The need for financial decentralisation as an aid to economy and efficiency of administration provided the occasion for the establishment of Local Administration Units in urban areas and rural areas. Municipalities were constituted for local administration of urban areas; while District Boards, Taluk Boards and Union Boards were created for administration of rural areas. The progress of Local Administration was being reviewed from time to time and changes were being made in the constitution, functions and powers of these Local authorities. At the time of transfer of power these institutions continued as people's institutions.

In a country waking up after centuries, it is but natural that between the local people's institutions and the Government, the Government would be the stronger partner. Local institutions would be dependent on the initiative flowing from the Government. A new approach is the need of the hour and a new agency has to be found to take democracy to the lowest level for if democracy is to survive and endure as a reality it has to be worked by the perennially rejuvenated impacts of representatives emerging from below who will reflect the surging spirit of the people.

Growth from Below

It was realised that sovereignty in a democracy could never be bestowed on the people from above. It had to grow from below. Though our Constitution has conferred equality of rights to all the people, those in the countryside did not possess the resources necessary to enforce their rights

guaranteed by the Constitution. It was in this context that the programme of Community Development was launched in rural areas.

The Community Development Programme launched in 1952 has made spectacular progress. The main aim of the programme is to develop the social and economic life of the community, and to bring the message of hope to the masses of our people, to teach them self-reliance and confidence in themselves and the way to realise our objectives through hard and co-operative effort. It endeavours to change peacefully and progressively the social order of our 300 million inhabitants of rural areas. Self-help and co-operation are the principles on which the movement rests, the Government offering guidance and assistance financial as well as technical. But it was found that although the people had come forward to help themselves, the initiative had by and large vested with the official agency. The wide powers given to the Governmental agency in the earlier phase to enable it to get things done quickly had actually resulted in making the people and non-official institutions look to Governmental agency for help.

A People's Programme

If the Community Development programme was to be a people's programme, it was not only desirable but also essential that the people themselves must not only plan and execute the programme but also provide the stimulus and themselves become the prime movers. The involvement of the people and their representative institutions was of vital importance if democracy was to be broad-based and the people educated in their responsibilities. The success so far achieved indicates that what started as a Government's programme with people's participation has gradually become a people's programme with Government participation.

The Mehta Report

A study team presided over by Sri Balwantrai Mehta was set up by the Committee on Plan Projects in 1957 and it reviewed the entire situation and considered that the existing local-self-Government bodies should be replaced by a single representative and vigorous democratic institution to take charge of all aspects of development work in the rural areas, a body which must be an instrument of expression of the local people's will in regard to the local development. It suggested that there should be devolution of powers and decentralisation of administration so that the responsibility for planning and executing of the development programmes should be exercised by the popular representatives of the local area. These popular institutions were to be the panchayat at the village level, the panchayat samiti at the block level, and the Zilla Parishad at the district level. In the meanwhile, the State Government also appointed a Cabinet Committee to consider the future of Local Administration in Madras State. It was found that there was a large measure of agreement between the conclusions reached by the Cabinet Committee and the conclusions reached by the Mehta Committee. The Cabinet Committee also recommended a three-tier pattern of local administration. According to this pattern the panchayats are to be the basic institutions at the village level because they have their roots in our culture and traditions. A Panchayat Union is to be constituted for every development block and the constitution of the panchayat union is to be so devised that it would represent a co-operative association of the panchayats of all villages situated in that block and provide effective individual representation on it for every panchayat in the block. The Panchayat Union is to be provided with funds and executive staff, technical aid and administrative guidance. At the district level, a District Development Council is to be formed for each Development District as the permanent machinery for establishing advisory associations of elected representatives of the local people with departmental agencies of the State Government. In our State, District Development Councils were constituted from 1st January 1960 and the first batch of 75 panchayat unions was inaugurated on 2nd October 1960 and the programme of constitution of panchayat unions will be completed on 2nd October 1961 when the entire State will be covered with panchayats and panchayat unions.

Proposals of Planning Commission

The proposals of the Planning Commission for the Second Five-Year Plan as accepted by

Parliament also stressed the need for creating within the district a well organized Democratic Structure of administration in which village panchayats will be organically linked with popular organizations at the higher level.

The popular institutions are responsible primarily for planning and implementation of the overall plans of Government approved in Parliament and in the State Legislature. In the process these newly formed institutions will enlist maximum participation of our people. The representatives at the Village level will have to concern themselves with the day-to-day planning of programme for each individual family. Thus alone can there be a plan for the village as a whole in all aspects of its life. They should have a complete understanding of the resources and requirements of the village, the priorities, the special attributes and limitations of the people.

The Local Self-Government institutions and others at the Block level will be slightly away from the ground. Therefore, their role will be one of general supervision and stimulation of the lower organizations and the planning and implementation of inter-village programmes. The District Organization, viz., the District Development Council which is still farther away will provide supervision in depth and wider planning and implementation of programmes which are of inter-block importance. Besides planning, implementation, supervision and stimulation these people's organization will have further responsibility of interpreting the National Plan to the people at the respective levels and to place the local plans in the wider setting. Thus the people's organizations from the village to the district will have a primary and complementary role to discharge alongside the Government agency.

Devolution of Power

The need for a devolution of power and a decentralization of machinery was thus conceded and such power was to be exercised and such machinery controlled and directed by popular representatives of the local area. There is a danger in this and a risk of things going away because of lack of experience or training. That risk should be cheerfully faced. In the long run it is only by spreading out responsibility that we will train our people. Delegation of power does not divest the Government of ultimate responsibility for the actions of the authority to whom power is delegated. Decentralization on the other hand is a process whereby the Government divests itself completely of certain duties and responsibilities and devolves them on to some other authority. Delegation of power is taking place to progressively lower levels of executive machinery. Decentralisation of responsibility and power has not taken place below the State level in recent years. With the setting up of panchayat unions at the Block level, decentralization will be effected by a devolution of power to that body which will be in entire charge of all development work within the jurisdiction. The term "development work" will include agriculture, animal husbandry, minor irrigation work, village industries, elementary education, local communication, sanitation, health and medical relief, local amenities, etc. This process has come to be known as "Democratic Decentralization". This process does not necessarily consist of immediate and outright transfer of responsibility from the State Government to panchayat unions. To start with, the scope of statutory devolution of panchayat unions will be limited to the development of those social services which are at present the statutory responsibility of district boards and panchayats. Later on panchayat unions will be entrusted with a definite measure of responsibility in respect of the formulation and execution of local development schemes, subject to Government control for specified purposes. This has become necessary because the local development schemes will have to be fitted into the framework of the State Development Plan, just as the State Development Plan has to be fitted into the National Plan.

According to the programme of implementation of the Madras Panchayats Act, 1958, the entire State will be covered by panchayat unions on or before 2nd October 1961 but the statutory entrustment of the execution of the National Extension Service Schemes of Community Development to the panchayat unions will be ordered under a different phased programme. It is only when the Panchayat Unions are

entrusted with this responsibility that the process of Democratic Decentralization can be deemed to have reached culmination.

Democratic Decentralization

The success of the scheme of Democratic Decentralization will depend on a very large measure on the education and training of the people as also their representatives to whom we propose to transfer the substance of the power and responsibility under the new scheme. Ignorant people and enlightened representatives are either myths or uneasy partners. For this purpose a series of Panchayat Development Seminars were held at the State level. Similar Seminars were held at the District level and the programme has also been carried to the Block and Village level.

India's history of the last several years illustrates the age-old truth that responsibility and power are essential for development and progress of a country. The Community Development Programme the central concept of which is to enable the country to appreciate its problems, to realize its own responsibilities in regard to the solution of its problem and to exercise the powers necessary to discharge these responsibilities, makes this possible. The programme will be implemented through popular institutions and with the programme unfolding itself new standards of improved living, of better health, better education, better food, better clothing for village community will become possible. The ushering in of the Panchayat Raj is a revolutionary step towards decentralization of power and realization of the India of our conception. Panchayat Raj would make the people in the countryside develop self-reliance and self-confidence in the political, social and economic spheres and eliminate officialdom. There is no doubt that the enterprising people of our State would make the best use of the new powers vested in the village units.

LITERATURE ON CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT: AWARD OF PRIZES

In order to encourage the production of books and literature dealing with important aspects of the co-operative Movement for the use of field workers, officials of co-operative societies and those interested in Co-operation, the Government of India have decided to award prizes to authors and to purchase copyright of the books bearing the following titles :—(i) Co-operative Farming : (ii) Operation and Management of a Co-operative Marketing Society ; (iii) Procedures and account keeping in Village Co-operative Society ; (iv) Consumers' Co-operative Society ; (v) Guide to Co-operation for the Village Level Worker ; (vi) Stories of Successful Co-operatives ; (vii) A " Drama " bringing out the benefits of Co-operative Credit.

Authors who wish to participate in the scheme may apply to the Section Officer, (Co-operation Training) Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation, Department of Co-operation, Room No. 465-A, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi, for rules governing the award of prizes. The last date for receipt of entries is 31st March 1961.

The authors will be supplied, on request, the synopsis for the books mentioned above. Books and manuscripts can be submitted in any Indian language. For each publication selected, a prize subject to a maximum of Rs. 1,000 will be awarded.

Co-operation in Towns and Villages

V. BALASUNDRAM, I.A.S.,
Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

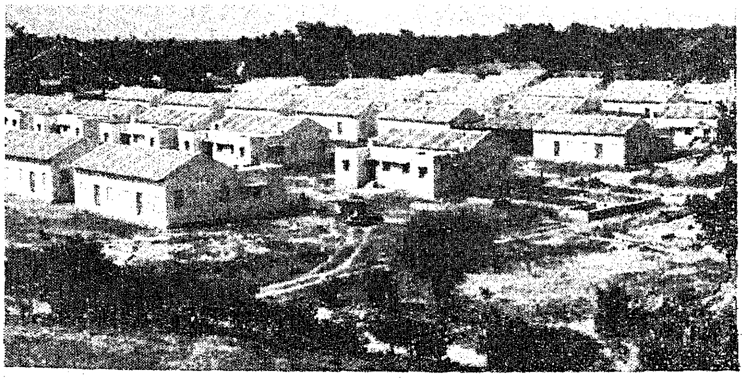
THE large majority of the population of our country consists of agriculturists who live in villages. They require credit for cultivation. They also require seeds, manures and other requisites for production. Besides short-term loans for cultivation, which can be repaid from the year's harvest, they require what are known as medium-term loans for purposes like purchase of bulls, sinking or deepening of wells, etc., which can be repaid over a period of 3 to 5 years from their annual income. They also require long-term loans for discharge of prior debts and effecting permanent improvements to land, which can only be repaid in small instalments extending over a much longer period.

Agricultural credit

Co-operative credit societies have been established in villages for catering for these needs and requirements of the agriculturists. There are over 9,000 credit societies, 329 agricultural banks, 22 rural banks and 150 credit unions in the State for providing these facilities. The village credit societies generally function on the basis of unlimited liability and operate in one or two villages. The agricultural banks are constituted on guarantee liability and operate over a larger area covering 4 or 5 contiguous villages with a total population of about 5,000. The village credit societies and agricultural banks give loans to their members on personal surety and on mortgage of immovable property. The agricultural banks grant loans on the pledge of jewels also. The rural banks operate over a wider area than the agricultural banks and issue mostly medium-term credit on mortgage of immovable property, besides loans on the pledge of jewels. The credit unions, which are of recent origin and which have been formed in economically backward areas operate over 4 or 5 villages with a population of about 5,000 as in the case of agricultural banks, but unlike the agricultural banks, they have affiliated societies functioning in the villages in their area. These unions confine their business to the supply of credit leaving it to their affiliated societies to provide other services to their members. These types of primary societies are financed by the Central Banks in their respective districts. The Central Banks themselves are financed by the Madras State Co-operative Bank. On 30th June 1960 there were 15.86 lakhs of members in all these primary societies, and they provided credit to the total extent of Rs. 17·30 lakhs during the year ending June 1960.

Long-term credit

For the supply of long-term credit to the agriculturists in the villages, there are 91 primary land mortgage banks in the State. Generally speaking, there is one bank for every taluk. They grant loans on the mortgage of unencumbered lands up to 40 per cent of the present value for the discharge of prior debts and 50 per cent for improvement of land. These loans are repayable in annual instalments over a period of 20 years. The primary banks are financed by the Central Land Mortgage Bank at Madras which raises money by the issue of debentures guaranteed by the Government. The value of the debentures in circulation on 30th June 1960 amounted to Rs. 684.58 lakhs. During the year 1959–60, the land mortgage banks issued loans to the extent of



An outstanding example of Co-operation is the Ammapet Weavers' Colony in Salem

Rs 93.41 lakhs and the outstandings against these members amounted to Rs. 4.64 crores on 30th June 1960.

Marketing facilities

Besides credit for production, the agriculturists in the villages require facilities for the sale of their produce at a favourable price. The marketing societies of which there were 126 on 30th June 1960 provide these facilities. They not only lend on the pledge of their produce up to 60 to 75 per cent of its market value to enable the members to hold it over for a better market, but also undertake marketing of the produce on behalf of the members at a small commission. During the year 1959-60, they lent Rs. 191.72 lakhs on the pledge of produce and sold produce worth Rs. 253.18 lakhs.

Government provide financial assistance to the societies for the construction of godowns, installation of processing plants like groundnut decorticators, cotton gins and rice hullers and for purchase of lorries. There are marketing organizations at the district level; and an Apex Marketing Society has also been established at Madras to facilitate the working of these societies.

A new venture in the co-operative organization for the benefit of the agriculturists in the rural areas is the establishment of co-operative sugar mills consisting of the sugarcane growers. The objective of these organizations is that, in addition to getting a reasonable price for the cane grown, the producers may get a share of the profits of the sugar industry also. There are now three sugar mills in the State at Maduranthakam in the Chingleput district, Ambur in the North Arcot district, and Udamalpet in the Coimbatore district. Two of these mills have gone into production and the third mill is expected to start production very soon. There are proposals for the organisation of more mills.

Co-operative milk supply societies have been formed in the villages to provide a subsidiary occupation to the agriculturists. These societies issue loans to their members for the purchase of milch animals and the loans are recovered in easy instalments from the proceeds of the milk supplied by them to the societies. The societies arrange for the marketing of the milk produced by the members. Apart from providing a sideline of income to the villagers, these societies have helped in supplying pure milk to urban consumers. There were 848 milk co-operatives on 30th June 1960 and the value of the milk produced by them during the year ending 30th June 1960 amounted to Rs. 212. 93 lakhs.

Co-operative cultivation

Attempts have been made in recent years to organize cultivation itself on a co-operative basis. Owners of land who come forward voluntarily to pool their lands and undertake their cultivation jointly are organized into joint farming societies. Tenants cultivating lands belonging to temples have been organized into tenant farming societies. In gramadan villages, especially in the Madurai district, farming societies known as gramadan sarvodaya co-operatives have been formed. Government have provided assistance to these societies for purposes like sinking of wells, installation of pumpsets, reclamation of land, construction of godowns, purchase of bulls, carts, implements, etc., and free services of staff. They have also given guarantee to the financing banks in regard to the repayment of short-term loans issued to these societies for cultivation. On 30th June 1960, there were 124 societies of all types and the total extent of land brought under them was 17,981 acres.

Handloom Weavers

Next in importance to agriculturists come the handloom weavers in the villages. For them, weavers' co-opearatives have been organised. These societies procure yarn and other materials

required for production and get cloth produced through their members paying them wages for their work. On 30th June 1960 there were 1,056 weavers' societies in the State and nearly 45 per cent of the looms are within their fold. On an average, their total monthly production amounts to Rs. 77 lakhs and their sales to Rs. 83 lakhs. The Madras State Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society which is composed of weavers' co-operatives helps these societies in the supply of yarn and the sale of their finished goods. With the aid of the cess fund, various measures have been taken for assisting weavers and improving the handloom industry.

Construction of Houses

Facilities for the construction of new houses are also provided in the villages by the establishment of rural housing societies. Government loans subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000 are given by these societies for the purpose. These loans which are given upto 80 per cent of the estimated cost of construction are repayable in instalments over a period of 20 years. There were 209 rural housing societies on 30th June 1960. They have financed the construction of 419 houses.

The development of co-operative activities in various directions is not confined to the villages alone. Co-operative institutions of different types render useful services to the urban population also. The co-operative urban banks provide credit to artisans, traders and others on personal surety, on the mortgage of houses and on the pledge of jewels, produce and merchandise also. They accept deposits of various kinds and provide to their constituents several banking facilities such as collection of cheques, transmission of funds and, in some cases, discounting of bills. On 30th June 1960, there were 151 such banks with 4.1 lakh members. The loans due by members to these banks amounted to Rs. 681.25 lakhs on 30th June 1960.

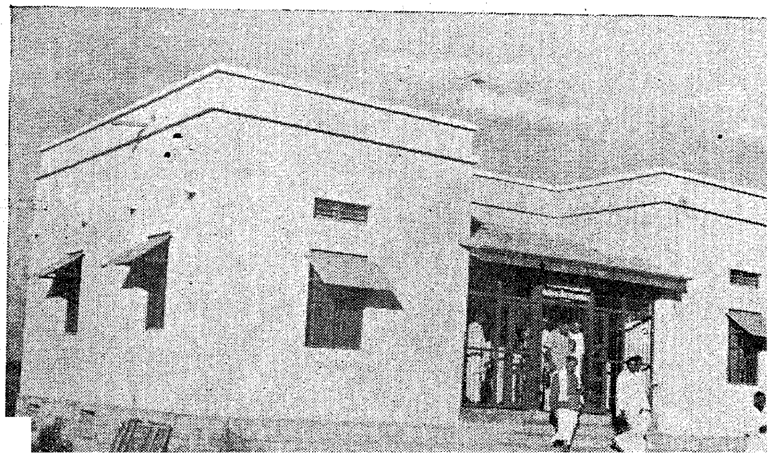
Besides urban banks, there are employees' credit societies for meeting the credit needs of salaried employees. There were 563 such societies with 2.8 lakh members and the loans outstanding against them amounted to Rs. 8.43 crores. These societies have helped their members to encourage thrift by a system of compulsory savings and the total thrift deposits collected by them amounted to Rs. 192 lakhs.

Consumer Societies

Another type of co-operative serving the people in towns is the consumers societies. They purchase household provisions and other articles of daily necessity in bulk and sell them to their members. In addition to supplying these articles of good quality at reasonable prices, they pay bonus on purchase to the members from their profits. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society in the Madras City is an outstanding example of a successful consumers' organisation. There are some consumers stores functioning in the villages also. On 30th June 1960, there were 853 stores both in towns and villages and they had 3.33 lakh members. Their purchases amounted to Rs. 10.49 crores and sales to Rs. 11.39 crores, during the year ended January 1960.

Co-operative housing societies in urban areas are doing valuable service to the middle class and lower middle class people in providing them with houses of their own. They give long term loans to their members for the construction of houses. The loans given which are limited to 80 per cent of the estimated cost of construction are repayable in 20 years. The funds for this purpose are provided by Government. The housing societies implement the Low Income Group Housing Scheme of the Government of India under which loans not exceeding Rs. 8,000 are available to persons whose income does not exceed Rs. 6,000 per annum and the middle income group housing scheme financed by the Life Insurance Corporation under which loans upto a maximum of Rs. 20,000 are provided

A view of the Ramachandrapuram Co-operative Bank, Thanjavur District



A view of the impressive gateway at the entrance of the colony of houses constructed by the Pollachi Co-operative House Construction Society at Mahalingapuram.

to persons whose annual income exceeds Rs. 6,000, but does not exceed Rs. 10,000. There were 236 housing societies on 30th June 1960 and they have built so far 8,984 houses. The loans outstanding against their members on 30th June amounted to Rs. 280.97 lakhs.

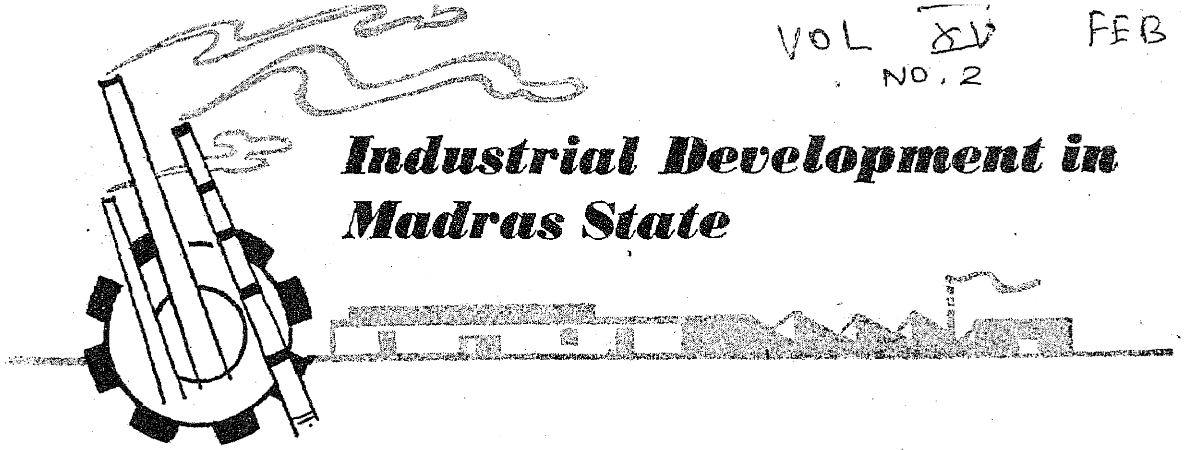
Housing Societies

Housing societies for industrial workers have also been formed for the construction of houses for them under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme of the Government of India under which 25 per cent of the cost of construction (subject to the standard of cost fixed) is provided as a subsidy and 65 per cent as loan. There are 22 such societies and they are implementing schemes involving 1,041 houses with State assistance amounting to Rs. 22.76 lakhs by way of loans and Rs. 9.09 lakhs by way of subsidy.

While the housing co-operatives finance the construction of new houses, house mortgage banks grant loans to house owners for maintaining their houses in good repair and making extensions or additions to them where necessary. These are institutions of comparatively recent origin. To finance these societies a Central House Mortgage Bank has been established at Madras.

Co-operative societies of different types are thus helping the people both in the villages and towns in various ways. The rapid expansion of the movement that is taking place in many and varied directions is an indication of the greater awareness on the part of the rural and urban people and their appreciation of the usefulness of co-operative effort. It cannot, however, be denied that there are still many, especially the weaker sections of the community, who are outside the movement and therefore not getting the benefit of co-operative services. It should be the endeavour of all concerned to extend the co-operative services to those persons who need them most.

VOL XV FEB 19
NO. 2



Industrial Development in Madras State

S. D. PAUL, B.A.,
Deputy Secretary, Department of Industries, Labour and Co-operation.

THE development of industries has been assigned a high order of priority during the Second Five-Year Plan, as well-planned industrialisation is the most important course of economic activity to stabilise the country's economy in all sectors. Industries may be broadly classified as (1) Heavy Industries producing capital goods, (2) Light or Small-scale Industries producing capital goods with the aid of small machinery and power, (3) Village Industries that are traditional in character producing such goods as are consumable within the villages and not involving the use of any complicated machinery and (4) Handicrafts which involve high degree of artistic skill.

In the following paragraphs the industrial development that has taken place in the Madras State is briefly explained.

Heavy Industries

The most important project now implemented in the public sector is the Integrated Lignite Project at Neyveli. The project provides for the mining of 3·5 million tons of lignite per annum. In order to enable the project to operate as a commercial venture, the Government of India have created a Government limited company under the title of "The Neyveli Lignite Corporation, Ltd." The project is an integrated one, the constituent schemes being (1) Mining Scheme, (2) Thermal Power Station Scheme, (3) Fertiliser Production Scheme, (4) Briquetting and Carbonizing Scheme and (5) Clay Washing Scheme.

The first unit of the Thermal Power Station is expected to be put into operation in 1961 and the Fertilizer and the Briquetting and Carbonizing Plants are also expected to go into production in the course of the year 1963.

Iron and Steel Plant

The establishment of an Iron and Steel Plant in the State based on the iron ores of Salem district and Neyveli lignite has been engaging the attention of the Government for a considerable time. A team of experts from the G man Democratic Republic inspected the sites and studied the feasibility of the project. Their report indicates that the scheme for the manufacture of steel from the iron ores of Salem district is economically feasible. The preparatory work for the setting up of the project has been taken up on hand and a Special Officer in the Senior scale of I.A.S. has been appointed with an appropriate complement of staff to attend to the various administrative and technical items of work, so as to facilitate the implementation of the project at an early date. The Government have also constituted a "Special Cell" to assist and advise the Special Officer on technical and other matters. The Government

Wool processing at the Vinnamangalam Centre inaugurated during December last

have also encouraged the setting up of Pig Iron Plants in the Private Sector and licences have been issued to three Industrial undertakings, viz., Textool Co., Ltd., Coimbatore, Soundararajan Co. (Private), Limited, Madras, and Kalinga Industries, Calcutta. Of these, Textool Co., Ltd., has already commenced production while the other two have asked for permission to have a plant with larger capacity.

Madras Aluminium Co., Ltd., has been registered under the Indian Companies Act to undertake the establishment of an Aluminium Plant in Mettur. Technical Collaboration agreement with Montecatinis has been concluded. The Collaboration agreement has been approved by the Government of India and also capital issue sanction has been received for Rs. 4·5 crores equity and Rs. 1·5 crores preference.

Raw Film Factory

A Photographic Raw Film Factory is to be set up at Ootacamund for the manufacture of photographic raw film and papers. The project will be implemented through the National Industrial Development Corporation in technical collaboration with a French firm of repute. The factory is expected to commence production by the middle of 1962.

It has also been decided to set up a Surgical Instruments Factory in NANDAMBAKKAM near Madras. This Factory, which is to be established with Soviet aid, is expected to produce twenty lakhs of surgical instruments of different kinds each year and provide employment for 2,000 persons.

So far, 378 licences have been issued under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the establishment of new industrial undertakings and substantial expansion, etc., in this State and they include four cement factories, nine sugar factories, six fertiliser factories, six factories for manufacturing Heavy Chemicals, two factories for the manufacture of automobiles, one for automobile diesel engines and a number of automobile components like pistons, rings, valves, etc.

Small-Scale Industries

Small-Scale Industries have played a vital role in the economy of our country, their contribution to the national income being very appreciable. Their importance has, therefore, received increasing recognition and it is reflected in the high priority accorded to the development of these industries under the Second Five-Year Plan. The principal needs of the small-scale industries are training and technical advice in the use of improved tools and machines and in the adoption of new techniques, supply of raw materials and power at reasonable rates, grant of financial aid on easy terms, extension of assistance in the marketing of fininshed products and provision of ready-made factory space and servicing facilities. To fulfil these needs, the Government of Madras have implemented several schemes, including five Tool Room Shops, fifteen Common Service Facility Workshops, eighteen Pilot Production Centres, Six Training and Demonstration Centres, five Social Welfare Schemes, eleven Sales Depots, one Technical Information Section, one Raw Material Depot, thirteen Industrial Co-operatives and ten Industrial Estates and Colonies. The progress made in the various fields are detailed here.

Tool Room Shop

There is a tool room shop at Guindy, where servicing work is undertaken in precision grinding, jig boring, etc., and in the supply of special tools, jigs, fixtures, dies, etc. A designing section has also been set up to work in conjunction with the tool room. Similarly, a tool room has been provided in the Industrial Colony, Erode, and three such units are expected to start functioning in the Industrial Colonies at Pettai, Virudhunagar and Tiruchirappalli in the current year.

Fifteen Common Service facility workshops have been provided in the State, and they include the Forging and Heat treatment and the finishing shops at Guindy set up with the help of a Swedish Expert and the Electrical Goods Unit, Guindy, set up with the help of three Hungarian Experts. These workshops serve the needs of organized private small scale units, as well as the artisans. During last year, about 500 small scale industrialists availed themselves of the facilities available in the various units.

A Common Lease Shop has also been set up with the T.C.M. aid in the Industrial Estate, Guindy, where certain machines are hired out to industrialists along with Government workmen.

Pilot Production Centres

Out of the eighteen Pilot Production Centres, eleven have so far gone into production and articles such as galvanised structurals, pressure die cast parts, ferrous castings, splints and veneers, bolts and nuts, cycle parts, sheet metal articles, L.T. Insulators, etc., are being produced in these Centres. The Cycle Assembly Unit at Thanjavur and the Salt Glazed Pipes Factory, Quartz Crushing Plant and the Handloom Parts Unit at Salem and the Unit for the manufacture of Fractional H.P. Motors at Guindy are expected to go into production during the current year.

There is a Technical Information Section in the Industrial Estate, Guindy, which contains a variety of technical books, periodicals, manuals, bulletins, catalogues of machines, model schemes, survey reports, etc., and they are made available for the visitors who come for consultation.

Six Training and Demonstration Centres are now functioning in the State to impart training in wood working, blacksmithy, sheet metal work, etc., Besides these centres, six mobile vans, three for wood working and three for blacksmithy, are also being sent to villages periodically for popularizing and for training artisans in the use of power operated machines.

Grant of loans

A sum of Rs. 25 lakhs has been provided for the grant of loans to small scale industrialists during the year 1960-61. During the period from 1st April to 31st October 1960, loans to the extent of Rs. 18,48,689 were sanctioned to 2,804 industrialists and a sum of Rs. 10,43,255 has actually been disbursed so far to 2,182 industrialists.

Under the scheme 'Industrial Estate and Colonies' which is intended to provide factory space at a reasonable rent to all small entrepreneurs with a complete range of Industrial Services, two Industrial Estates—one at Guindy and another at Virudhunagar—and five colonies, one each at Madurai, Tiuchirappalli, Erode, Pettai and Marthandam have been established and they are now functioning. Three more colonies at Thanjavur, Katpadi, and Salem are expected to start functioning during the current year.

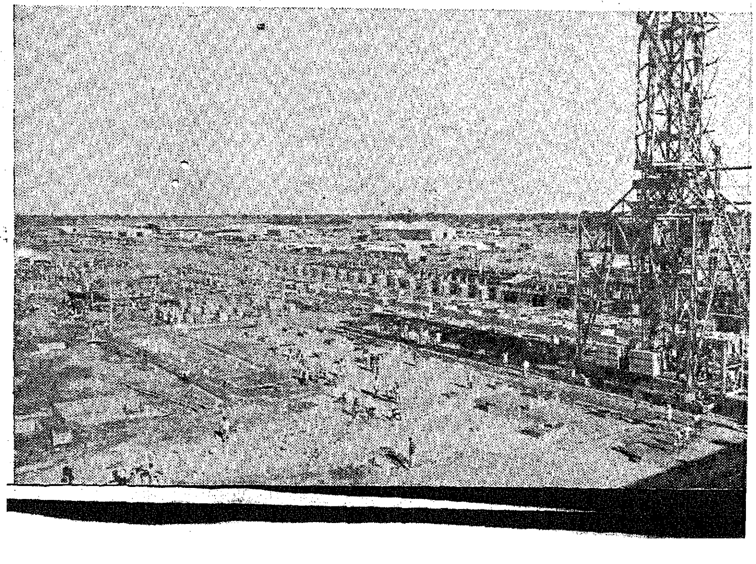
Thirteen Industrial Co-operatives have been organized and these include the Perambur Arunthathiyar Leather Workers' Co-operative Society, Sriperumbudur Bolts and Nuts Society, Kancheepuram Metal Workers' Co-operative Society, Nagapattinam Steel Trunk Workers' Society, Kumbakonam Co-operative Metal Works, Ammapet Blacksmity and Carpentry Society, Dindigul Lock Workers' Society, Talayuthu Timber Works, Marthandam Co-operative Timber Works, etc.

Coir Industry

There is a great scope for the development of Coir Industry in this State and the Government have, therefore, sanctioned the establishment of a Coir School at Ethamuzhi in Kanyakumari district to give training to the workers in the manufacture of mats, mattings, brush mats, etc., using modern machines and equipment. The total cost of this scheme is Rs. 1·82 lakhs and the school is expected to start functioning in 1961–62.

A scheme for the establishment of a Pilot Plant for the manufacture of mattress and bristle fibre in Tirunelveli district at a total cost of Rs. 1·09

A view of the Neiveli Lignite Project Site



lakhs has been sanctioned by the Government. This scheme envisages the adoption of the process and machinery commonly employed in Ceylon and the unit is expected to start working in 1961–62.

The Government have also sanctioned the establishment of Coir Demonstration-*cum*-Training Centres at Keelakarai and Adirampatnam for the benefit of the repatriates from Ceylon. The Unit at Keelakarai has since been changed to Periapatnam. These units will start functioning in the current year and will be run for one year.

Development of Handicrafts

The handicrafts of South India are its greatest heritage and with the advent of the Machine Age, they began to fade away and were in imminent danger of being virtually lost to posterity. A planned attempt was made to rehabilitate the crafts and several schemes were formulated to revive the forgotten handicrafts and resuscitate the languishing ones to suit the present conditions.

In many of the crafts there are only a few master craftsmen pursuing the crafts on traditional lines in remote villages. The training of adequate number of artisans in the various crafts was therefore given priority, and thirty-six departmental Training, Servicing and Production Centres have been set up throughout the State for the development of the following handicrafts :—

(1) Art Metal Work at Madurai and Swamimalai, (2) Bell Metal Work at Nachiarkoil and Vagaikulam in Tirunelveli district, (3) Fancy Leather goods at Guindy and Elayangudi, (4) Lace and Embroidery at Palayamkottai and Gopichettipalayam, (5) Paper Toys and Paper Machine articles at Thanjavur and Panruti, (6) Aloe fibre products at Neduveyal, (7) Palm-leaf products at Pallapatti, etc., (8) Palmyra furniture at Nazareth and Manamadurai, (9) Cane and Rattan Work at Wallajapet, (10) Bamboo Industry at Madurai, (11) Glass Bangle Industry at Nedumarthy, (12) Printing and Dyeing at Rajapalayam, (13) Weaving Woollen Cumblies and Druggets at Kolakudi, (14) Cloth dolls at Palayamkottai, (15) Ornamental Handles at Madurai, (16) Kalamkari Printing at Sickinaickenpatti, (17) Sculpture and casting moulds at Mahabalipuram, (18) Shell toys at Madras, (19) Weaving Carpets and Druggets out of sun hemp fibre at Gopalasamudram and Salem, (20) Painting Pictures on wood at Thanjavur, (21) Sungadai Saree Printing at Kadayanallur and (22) Wooden toys at Erode.

A Reasearch Centre for Glazed Pottery has been set up at Madras and it has carried out a systematic study of clay deposits and stadardized glazes and has evolved a number of new designs.

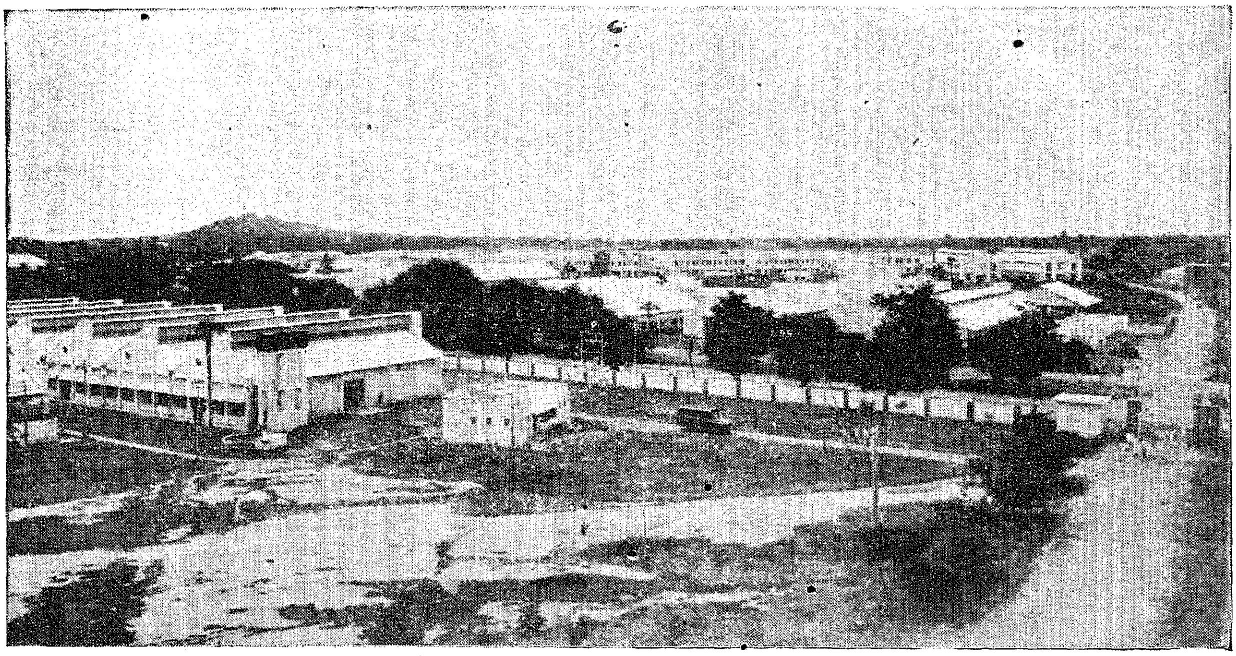
Wool Processing Centre

A Wool Processing Centre has been established at Vinnamangalam in North Actot district as a joint venture of the Madras and the Mysore Governments to make available to the drugget manufacturers of the two States quality wool for druggets meant for export. The initial cost of the scheme is Rs. 13·10 lakhs and it is to be met equally by the Governments of Madras, Mysore and the Union Government.

Financial assistance was provided towards working capital, etc., for the expansion of the Victoria Technical Institute, Madras, and the Handicrafts Emporia at Madras and Madurai and for training candidates in handicrafts in private institutions such as Stree Seva Mandir, Madras, etc.

The lack of proper organization among handicrafts workers who are scattered throughout the country, has been the main handicap in the development of handicrafts. A number of new Handicrafts Industrial Co-operative Societies have therefore been organized in this State and financial assistance has been provided to them in the form of loan towards working capital and share capital and grant towards the cost of special supervisory staff. A Central Handicrafts Marketing Co-operative Society has been established at Madras.

Five Sales-*cum*-Procurement Depots have been started at Tirunelveli, Thanjavur, Coimbatore, Salem and Rameswaram. One more depot is also expected to start functioning in the current year at Tiruchirappalli.



A view of the Industrial Estate at Guindy

At the commencement of the Second Plan, Madras State had about 1,500 acres under mulberry in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem and Nilgiris for pursuing the Silk Industry. As the State had potentialities of development, several schemes of mostly servicing nature were implemented during the Second Five-Year Plan period with the result the present extent under mulberry is about 2,800 acres in the State. The Industry has been newly introduced in the districts of Tirunelveli, South Arcot and North Arcot. The sericulturists in the State receive technical guidance from the staff who are stationed in important centres. Demonstration Farms and Chawkie units were established in Hosur, Talavadi, Tenkasi and Masanagudi todemonstrate to the sericulturists the rational practices in the industry. A Government Mulberry Graft Nursery has been established with a view to produce annually five lakhs mulberry grafts for bringing about 50 acres of graft mulberry, as grafts are found to be superior to local mulberry. A cross breed grainage with an annual capacity of five lakhs disease-free seeds production has also been established with a view to supply the silkworm rearers with protected silkworm eggs free from diseases. A seed campaign centre in Denkanicottah for local races and the existing foreign race stations in Hosur and Coonoor for foreign races have been reorganized for hybridisation work. Four Government cocoon markets in important sericultural areas have been established to afford ready marketing facilities to the sericulturists at a fair price. The reeling of silk which involves a good amount of investment has also been taken care of. An Industrial Co-operative for Silk Reeling has been started in Talavadi with 300 members.

Craftsmen Training Scheme

In order to meet the growing demand for technical manpower required for implementing schemes of national development, schemes to turn large number of craftsmen in engineering, building and vocational trades on a country-wide basis have been taken up in the State. Significant among them are the four Industrial Training Institutes at Cuddalore, Pettai, Tirunelveli, Nagapattinam and Virudhunagar. Apprenticeship Training schemes, evening classes for Industrial Workers and Integration of Industrial School sections. A scheme for the establishment of work and orientation centres for the educated unemployed has also been taken up.

TARGET PARTICULARS

I. *Small Scale Industries*—

	1956–57 *to* 1958–59.	1959–60.	*Requirements for* 1960–61. (RS. IN LAKHS)	*Total.*
1 Net expenditure on Block loans	62·61	22·30	25·00	109·91
2 Net expenditure on other small scale industries schemes.	175·10	78·91	84·92	338·93
3 Net expenditure on Estate and Colonies	74·79	31·43	80·44	186·66
4 Total net expenditure	312·50	132·64	190·36	635·50
5 Receipts	25·19	41·22	64·39	130·80
Total Gross Expenditure ..	337·69	173·86	254·75	766·30

The above expenditure does not include the sum of Rs. 2·70 lakhs spent on small scale industries schemes other than Block loans and the sum of Rs. 4·21 lakhs on the Industrial Estate, Guindy, during 1955–60 in connection with preliminary work.

II. *Handicrafts*—

Nature of scheme.	*Achievements, 1956–57 to 1959–60.*			*Anticipated achievements.*			*Achievements in Second Plan.*		
	Number of Schemes implemented.	*Expenditure.*	*Number of persons trained.*	*Number of Schemes.*	*Expenditure.*	*Number of persons trained.*	*Number of Schemes.*	*Expenditure.*	*Number of persons-trained.*
Sales-*cum*-procurement Depot.. ..	5	4·96	..	1	2·45	..	6	7·41	..
Training Service Production and Research Centres.	32	15·29	472	6	6·57	122	38	21·86	594
Financial Assistance to Private emporia and other institutions.	9	5·48	..	..	..	..	9	5·48	..
Financial assistance to Handicrafts Industrial Co-operative.	16	3·81	..	3	1·83	..	19	5·64	..
	62	29·54	472	10	10·85	122	72	40·39	594

III. *Sericulture.*—The Sericultural schemes implemented during the Second Plan are mostly centrally assisted. Against a sum of Rs. 11·12 lakhs, sanctioned for sericulture by way of grants, loans, State share, etc., the expenditure estimated by the end of the II Plan is as follows:—

	RUPEES IN LAKHS.
1 Expenditure out of Grants from Centre.	3·97
2 Expenditure out of Grants from Loans.	0·65
3 State share	5·08
Total ..	9·70

The physical target achieved in respect of production is as follows :—

1 Government Silk Farm, Tenkasi—
Acreage under mulberry—28·00 acres.
Cocoon production—840·00 acres.

2 Government Gut manufacturing Section—
Guts—4·34 lakhs.
Foreign race cocoons—7·74 lakhs.

3 Silk Reeling Unit, Hosur Silk–1,900 pounds.

4 Cross Breeding Grainage—Berigeri Gross Breed eggs—5·04 lakhs.

5 Mulberry Graft Nursery—Hosur Mulberry grafts—5·08 lakhs.

6 Hill Rearing Station, Coonoor—Foreign race eggs—1·29 lakhs.

7 Expansion in new areas—Mulberry acreage —300 acres.

GRAFTSMAN TRAINING SCHEMES.

Name of the scheme.	*Position at the end of I Plan.*			*Target prescribed for II Plan.*			*Targets achieved.*		
	ITIS	*Hostel.*	*Seats.*	*ITIS.*	*Hostel.*	*Seats.*	*ITIS.*	*Hostel.*	*Seats.*
1 Opening of new Industrial Training Schools.	..	..	..	4	..	1,204	4	..	1,204
2 Development of ITIS Centres ..	6	..	768	..	..	308	..	..	308
3 Integrated ITIS	..	..	..	..	..	888	..	..	888
Total Institutional Training	6	..	768	4	..	2,400	4	..	2,400
4 Apprenticeship training scheme ..	..	..	..	..	..	305	..	..	305
5 Evening classes for Industrial workers.	..	..	..	..	..	400	..	..	400
6 Work and Orientation Centres for educated unemployed.	..	..	..	3	..	300	3	..	300
7 Provision of hostels	..	..	..	2	..	168	A	..	A

A=The scheme has been sanctioned only during 1960–61 and the construction of hostel is under progress.

It may be seen from the above statement that the facilities in respect of institutional training have been increased to over three times when compared with the facilities available at the end of I Plan besides the introduction of 705 seats under miscellaneous training schemes. The progress made particularly during the year 1960–61 is the starting of one work and Orientation Centre at Madras on 1st August 1960 and an evening class for Industrial workers at industrial training Institute, North Broadway, Madras, besides the introduction of 500 additional seats in the existing seven industrial training institutes/centres in this State.

A THEATRE FOR CHILDREN

Films that educate and entertain children are being exhibited during every week-end at the well-furnished Children's Theatre in the Government Estate, Mount Road. Hundreds of children troop into this Theatre every week to enjoy these films.

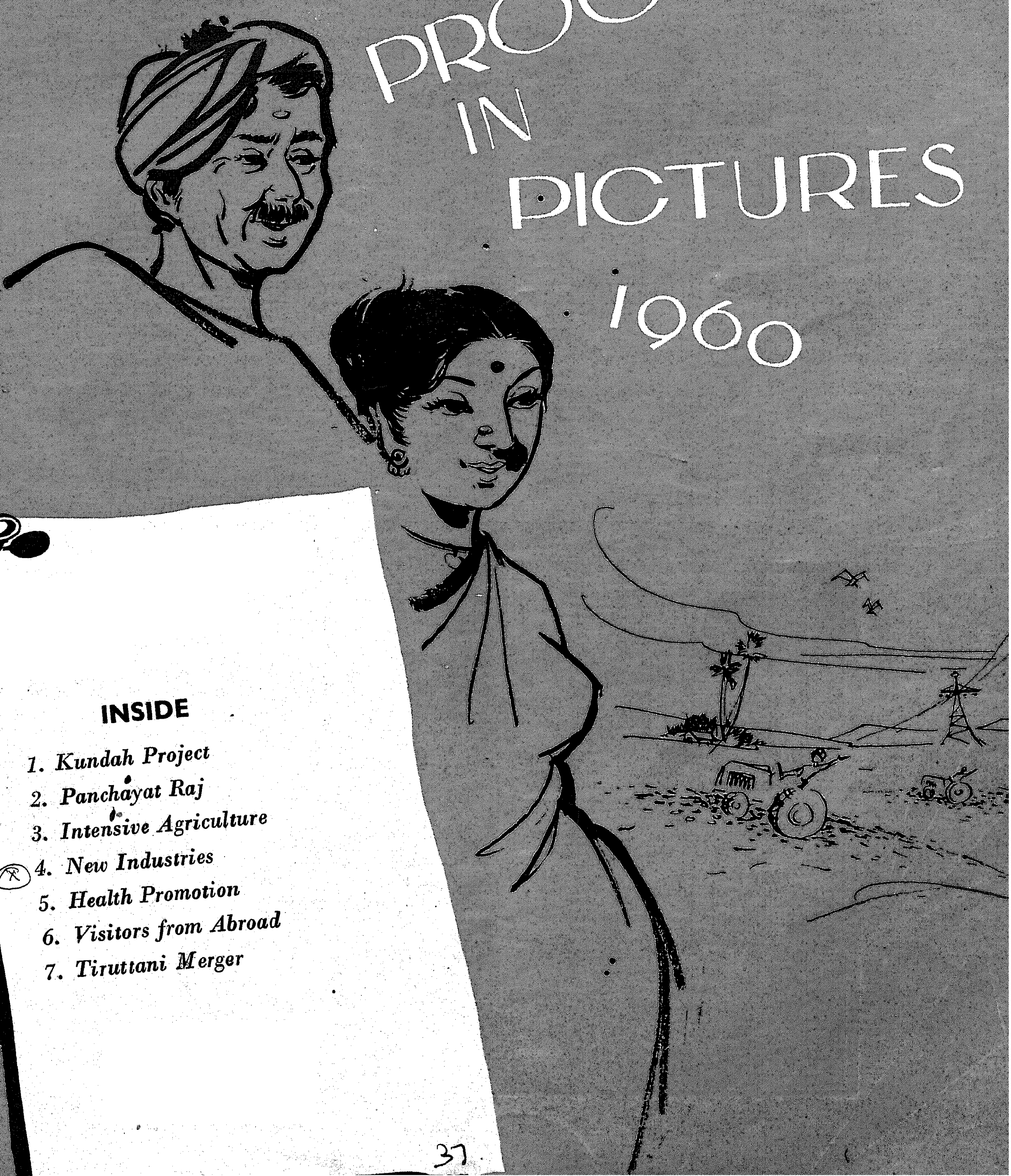
HAVE YOU TAKEN YOUR CHILDREN TO THESE SHOWS?

Patrons of the Children's Theatre, be they little ones or their proud parents, are all praise for this amenity. Srimathi Indira Gandhi said :

"Madras has stolen a march over Delhi which is still struggling with plans for a Children's Theatre".

MADRAS LEADS IN THIS AS IN OTHER SPHERES.

PROGRESS IN PICTURES 1960

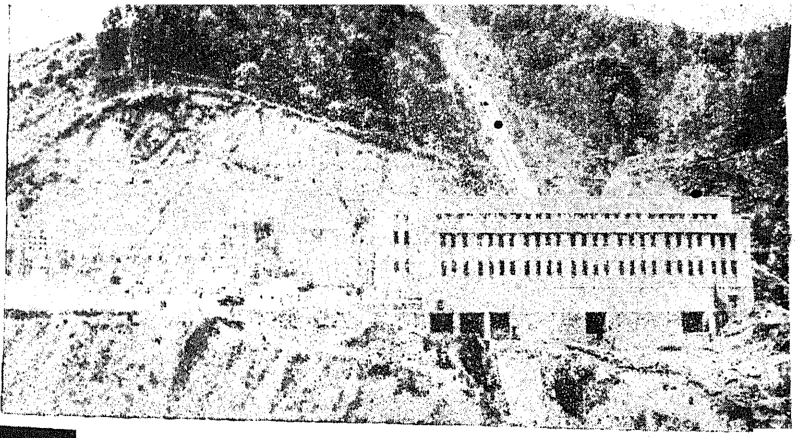


INSIDE

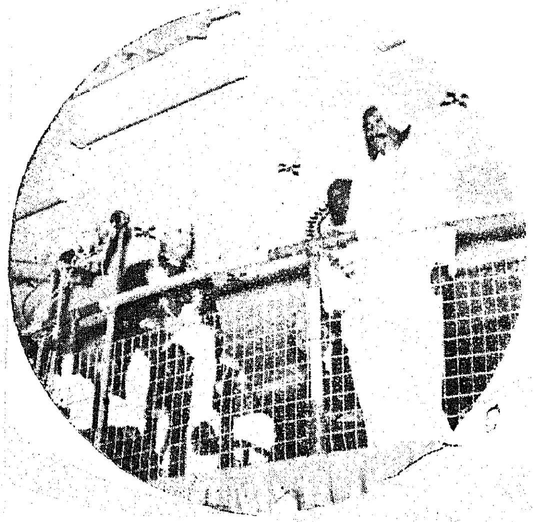
1. *Kundah Project*
2. *Panchayat Raj*
3. *Intensive Agriculture*
4. *New Industries*
5. *Health Promotion*
6. *Visitors from Abroad*
7. *Tiruttani Merger*

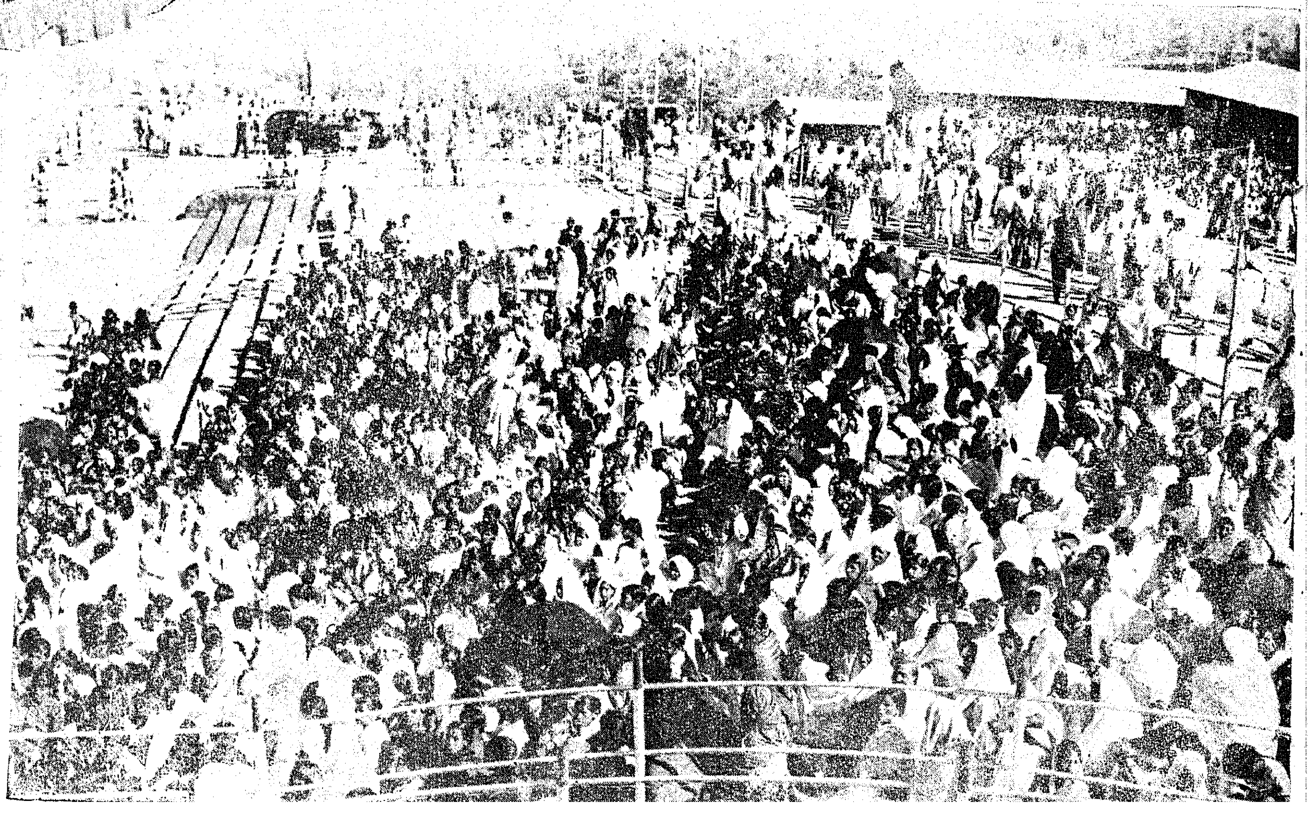
KUNDAH PROJECT

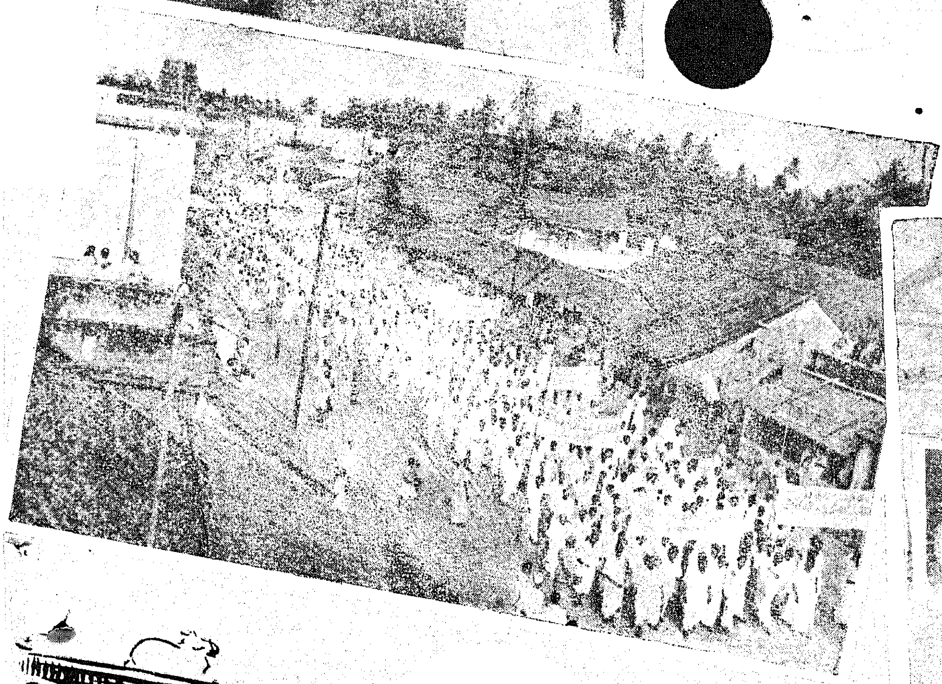
On the 26th of March 1960 a significant landmark in the State's progress towards prosperity was reached with the commissioning of Kundah Power House No. 1 at Kundah Camp, Nilgiris, by the Prime Minister, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru. The biggest hydro-electric scheme undertaken in the State so far, the 35-crore Kundah Hydel Project is the product of Indo-Canadian collaboration and is designed to yield when completed 425,000 k.w. of power. Picture above gives a panoramic view of Power House I with its transformer yard and penstock pipes.



A view of the mammoth crowd that witnessed the commissioning of the Power House by a worker in the presence of the Prime Minister (Picture on the left) is caught in the picture below.







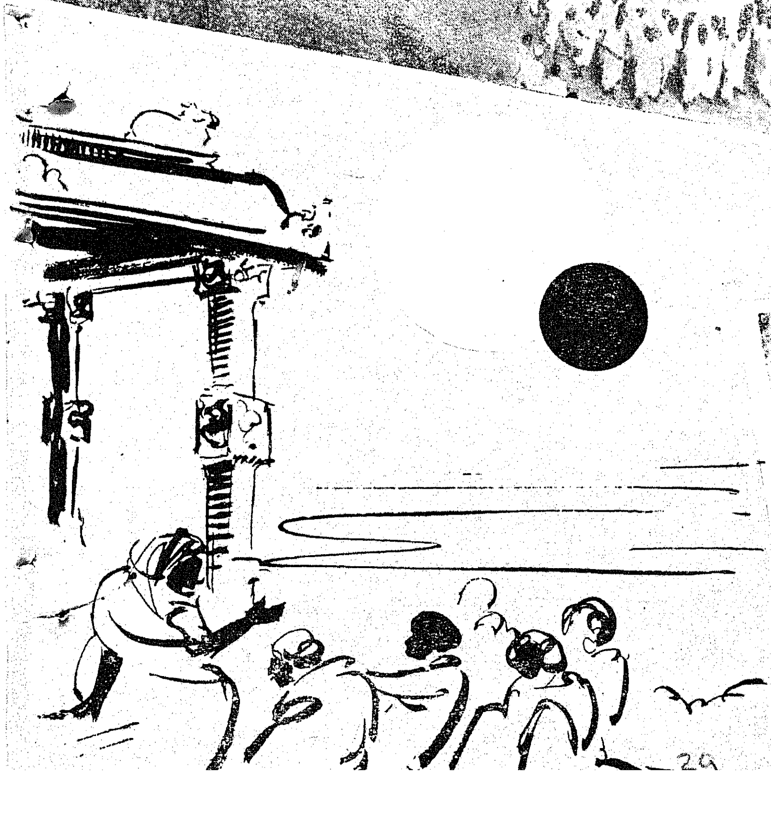
PANCHAYAT RAJ

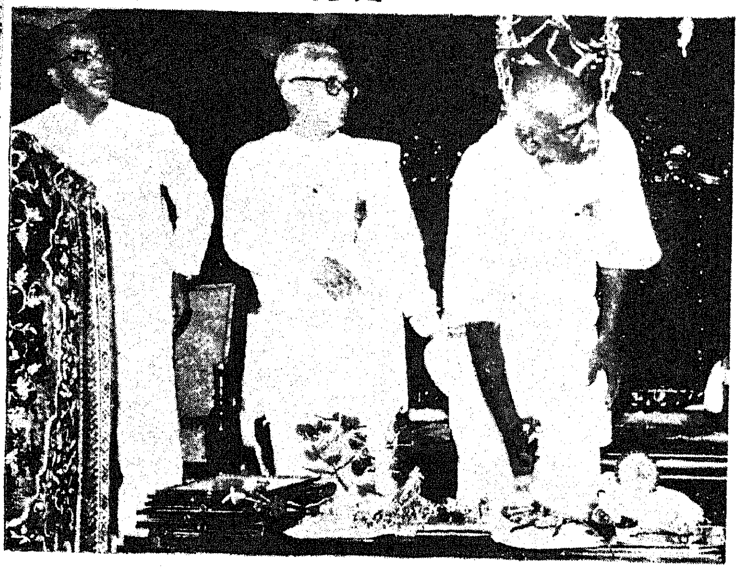
The accent during the year was on decentralization. The first batch of Panchayat Unions in 75 Community Development Blocks was inaugurated on October 2, 1960 (Gandhi Jayanthi).

On Left: Chief Minister Kamaraj inspecting map showing the places where Panchayat Raj was to be introduced in Chingleput District.

Mid-left and bottom: Festive and enthusiastic processions were taken out in Cuddalore registering public joy at the ushering in of Panchayat Raj.

Below: Home Minister Bhaktavatsalam inaugurating the Kadambattur Panchayat.





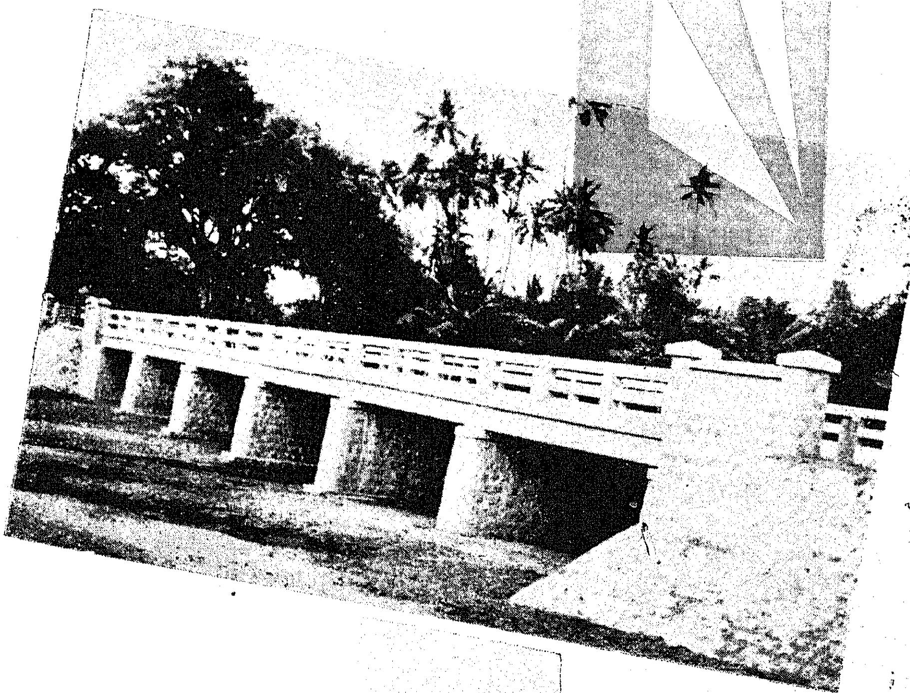
INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE

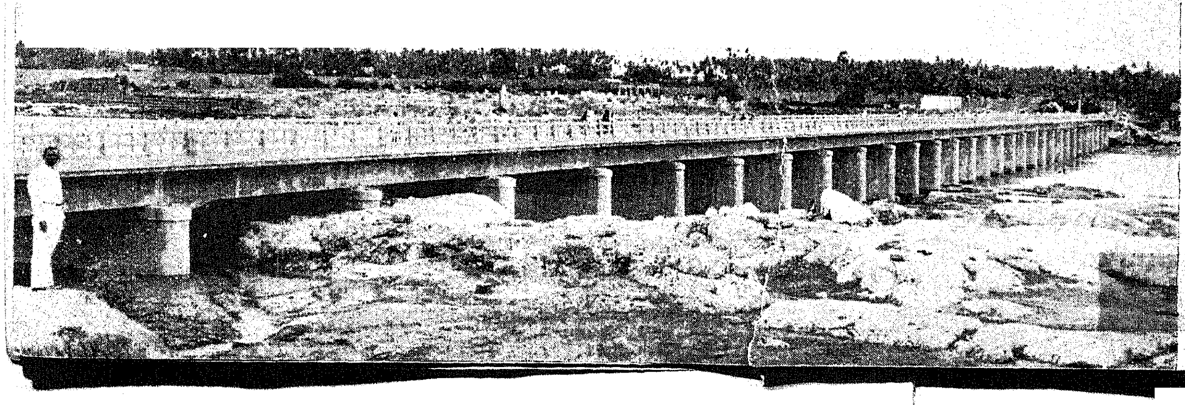
Under the package deal scheme intensive assistance for increasing agricultural output is being tried in select areas.

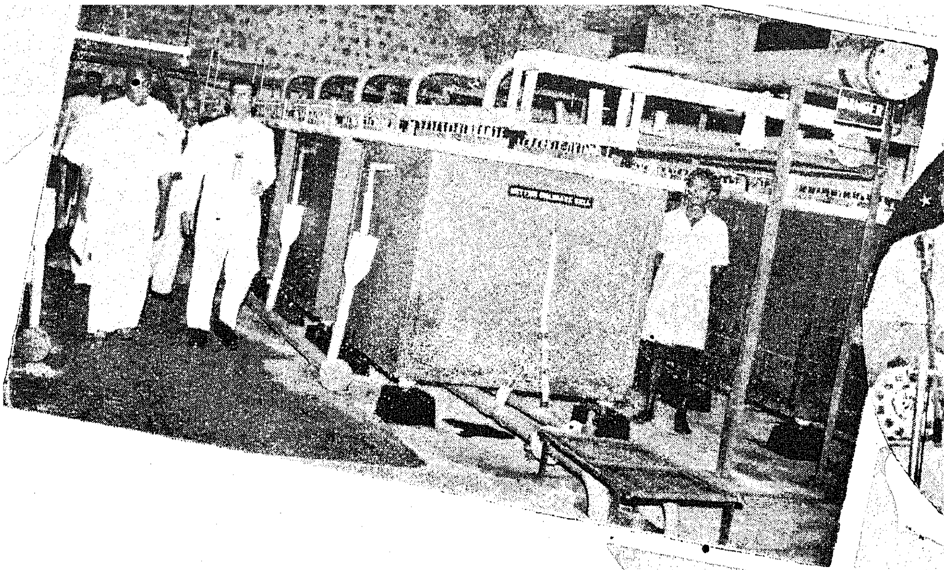
Above: Chief Minister Kamaraj inaugurating the scheme at Adutaurai in Tanjore District. Dark-shaded portions in district map (top right) indicate the 22 Community Development blocks in which the scheme is being tried.

On right: The Manimuthar bridge near Madurai.

At bottom: The bridge across the Cauvery connecting Erode and Pallipalayam.







NEW INDUSTRIES

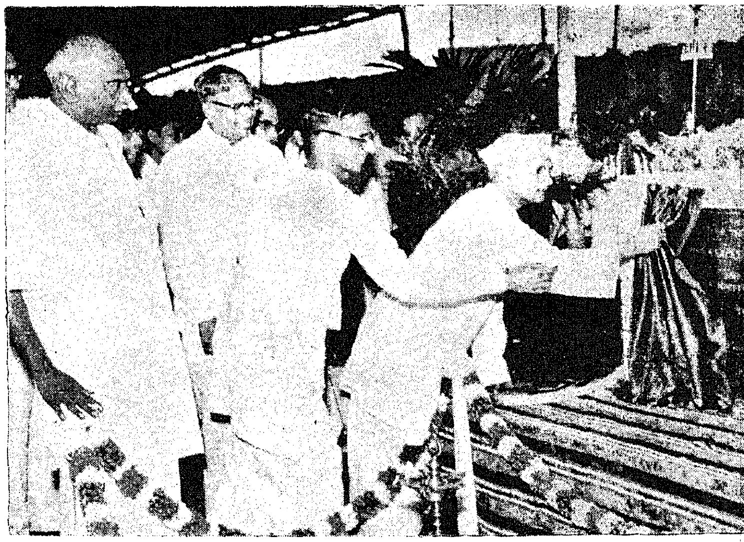
New Industries came up during the year 1960 both in the public and private sectors. Chief Minister Kamaraj (top right and left) inaugurated a big potassium chlorate plant at Mettur in August 1960. He is inspecting the plant.

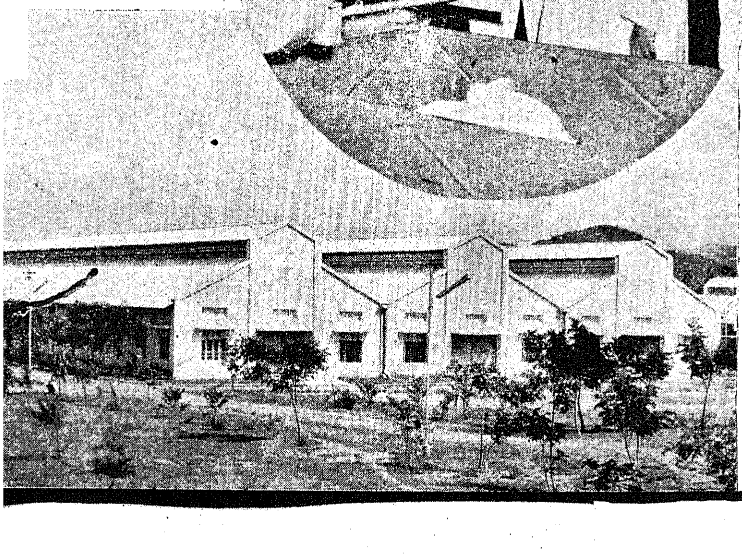
Right: Foundation stone for the six-crore pulp and paper plant of the Seshasayee Paper and Boards, Ltd., was laid in September last.

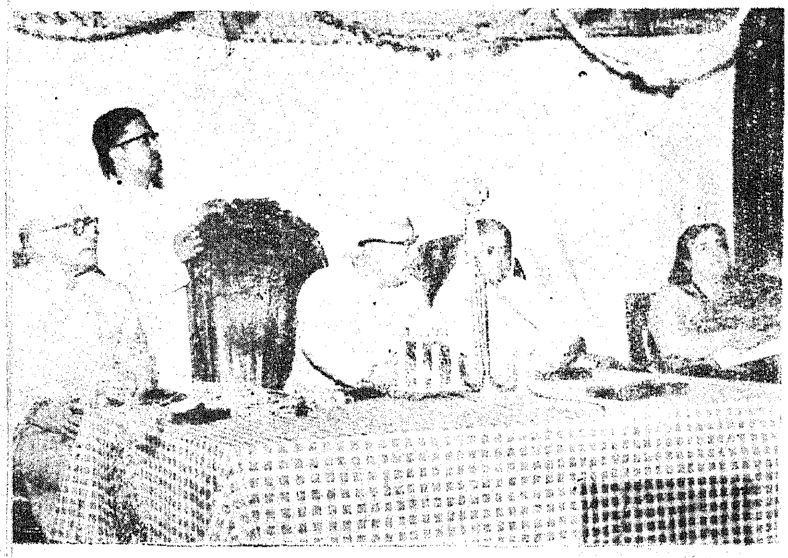
Below: Governor Bishnuram Medhi opened a wool processing centre at Vinnamangalam.

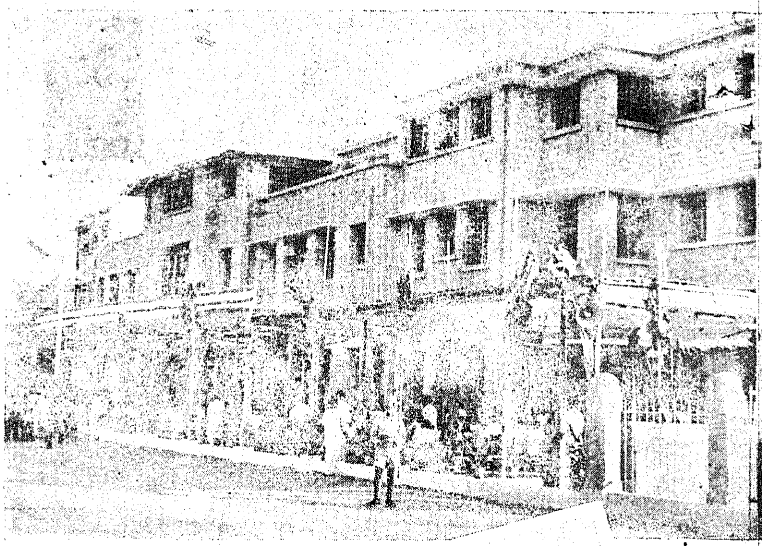
Bottom left: A view of the Centre.

Bottom right: Leader of a team of East German Experts presents a report on the feasibility of a steel plant at Salem to the Chief Secretary







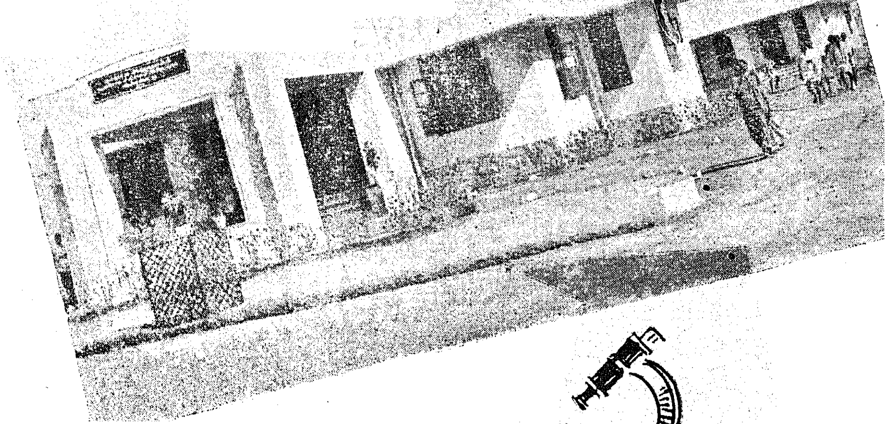


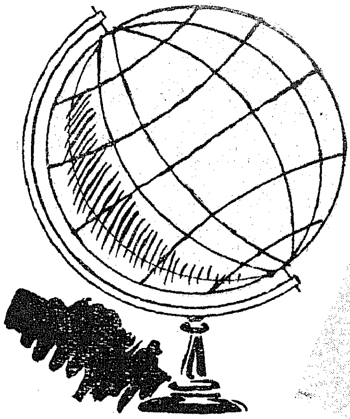
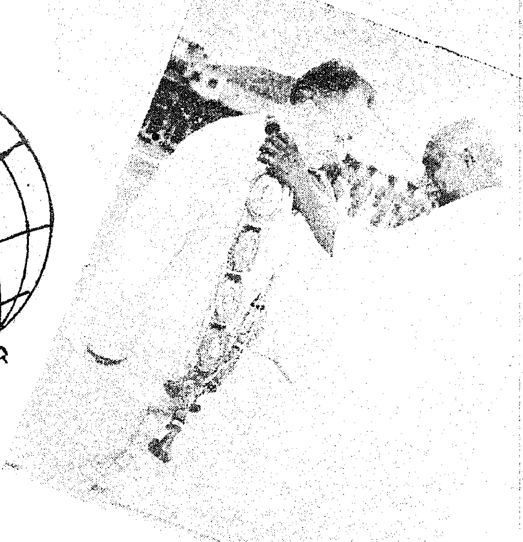
HEALTH PROMOTION

During the year more hospital facilities for Tuberculosis patients and convalescents were provided. An After-care and Rehabilitation Centre (top right) for ex-Tuberculosis patients was opened by Governor Bishnuram Medhi, Health Minister Manickavelu presiding (picture above) at Tambaram in September 1960.

Mid-right: The new Maternity block of the Erskine Hospital, Madurai, opened in February last.

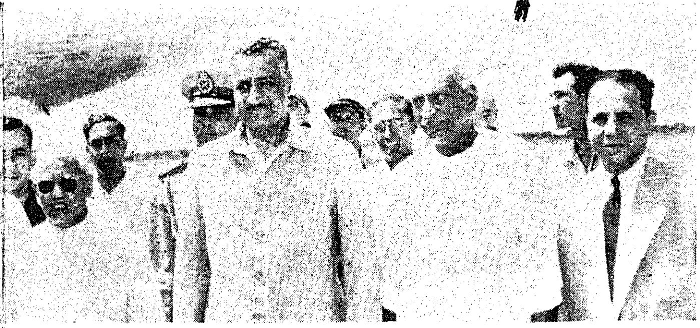
Right: The Tuberculosis Centre at Austinpet, Madurai.

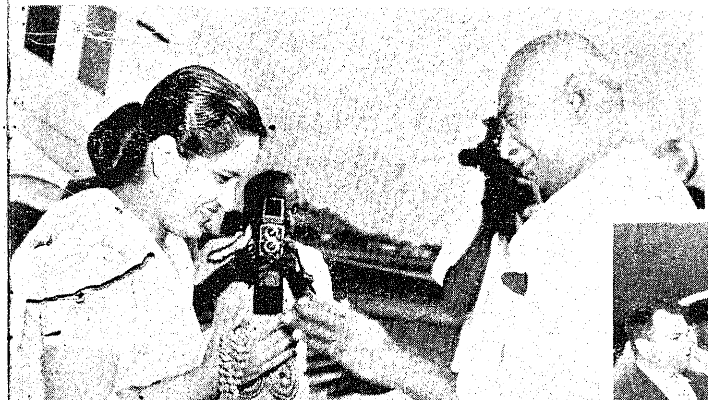


VISITORS FROM ABROAD

Many foreign dignitaries visited the State during the year 1960. *Above:* Dr. V. J. Sukselainan, Prime Minister of Finland. *From top to bottom left:* Mr. C. J. M. Alport, Minister of State for Commonwealth Relations, Britain ; Mr. Jezef Cyrarikiewicz, Prime Minister of Poland ; Gamel Abdel Nasser, President of the United Arab Republic ; Madame Furtseva, Deputy of the Supreme Soviet, U S.S.R. ; Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Ceylon. *Below:* Professor Theodor Heuss, former President of the Federal Republic of Germany *Mid-bottom:* Marshal Voroshilov, former President of the U.S.S.R





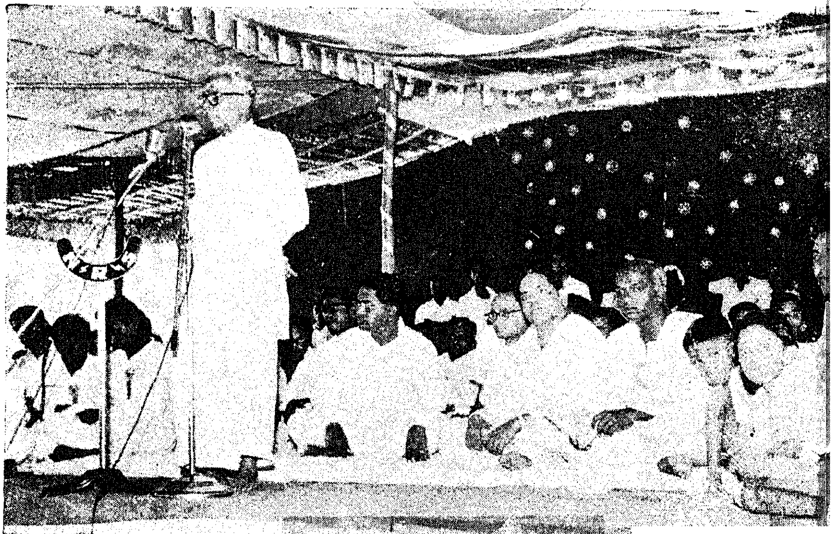
TIRUTTANI MERGER

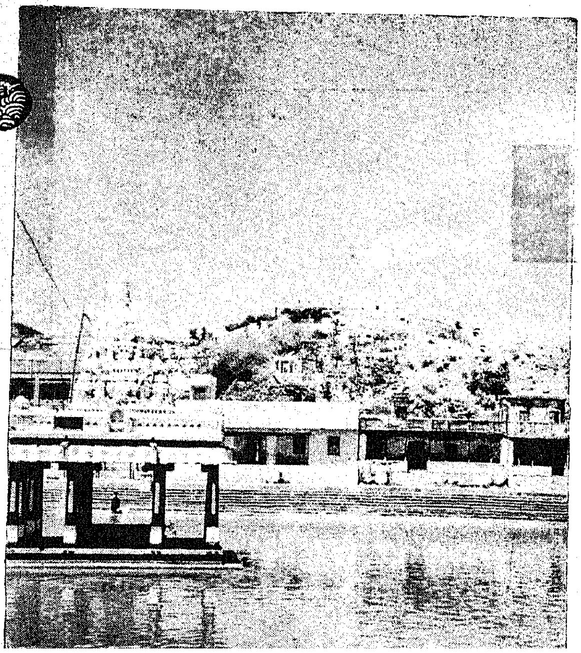
The year was notable for an amicable settlement of the Madras-Andhra boundary problem. The merger of Tiruttani and 286 villages with Madras State highlighted friendly relations with Andhra Pradesh.

Above: A view of the vast enthusiastic crowd that turned up to witness the function.

Right: Home Minister Bhaktavatsalam addressing the gathering on the occasion.

Below: A view of the Tiruttani temple tank with the holy Mantap in the middle.





When British civilians opposed English medium

350771

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Lecturer in English, Madras Christian College, Tambaram.

THE controversy regarding the medium of instruction in schools and colleges is not something new; It is almost a century old. It is erroneously assumed that the English language was thrust on Indians to produce clerks for Government service, and in this connection Macaulay is denounced as the hangman of Indian culture. Whatever may have been the outcome of English education, it must be said that Macaulay had the noblest aim in introducing it. In his famous minutes of 1835 he said, "I feel that it is impossible for us, with our limited means, to attempt to educate the body of the people. We must at present do our best to form a class who may be interpreters between us and the millions whom we govern, a class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in taste, in opinions, in morals and in intellect. To that class we may leave it to refine the vernacular dialects of the country, to enrich those dialects with terms of science borrowed from the Western nomenclature and to render them by degrees fit vehicles for conveying knowledge to the great mass of the population."

Macaulay sincerly hoped that the knowledge of science and literature gained by the upper classes would be filtered down to the masses through translations. The Court of Directors of the East India Company wanted to confine education to the upper classes who had a tradition of education behind them. The reason was primarily financial. It was not felt at any stage that English could always continue to be the medium of instruction. Time and again English educationists emphasised the need to switch over to the vernacular medium and promised special prizes for good translations. If there were not enough good translations, the blame should rest with the educated Indians and not the English.

History of English Education

A cursory glance at the history of English education in Madras would convince anyone of the concern of the English to educate the people whom they governed. It was Sir Thomas Munroe, Governor of Madras, who, in June 1822, asked the various collectors to submit a report regarding the state of education in the Presidency and called upon them to furnish a list of schools in which reading and writing were taught showing the number of scholars in each and the caste to which they belonged, the names of the books generally read, the time the scholars usually continued under instruction, the monthly or yearly payments made by them, whether any of the schools were endowed by the public and if so the nature of

the fund. It was not his intention either to modify or alter the existing system of education. "Everything of this kind", he observed, "ought to be carefully avoided and people should be left to manage their schools in their own way. All that we ought to do is to facilitate the operations of these schools by restoring any funds that may have been diverted from them and perhaps granting additional ones where it may appear advisable".

Exhaustive Report

It was the Collector of Bellary Mr. A. D. Campbell, who furnished the most exhaustive and interesting information about the nature of instruction in his district. It would seem that English was taught only in one school and that all the books in the Telugu and Canarese schools were in verse and in a dialect quite different from that of conversation.

"The alphabets of the two dialects are the same, and he who reads one, can read, but not understand, the other also. The natives therefore read their (to them unintelligible) books to acquire the power of reading letters in the common dialects of business, but the poetical is quite different from the prose dialect which they speak and write and though they read these books, it is to the pronunciation of the alphabets, not the meaning or construction of words, that they attend. Indeed few teachers can explain and still fewer scholars understand the purport of the numerous books they thus learn to repeat from memory. Every school boy can repeat verbatim a vast number of verses, of the meaning of which he knows no more than a parrot which has been taught to utter certain words. Accordingly from studies in which he has spent many a day of laborious but fruitless toil, the native scholar gains no improvement, except the exercise of memory and the power to read and write on the common business. He makes no addition to his stock of useful knowledge and acquires no moral impressions. He has spent his youth in reading syllables, not words and on entering into life, he meets with hundreds and thousands of words, of the meanings of which he cannot form even the most distant conjecture and as to the decension of a noun or the conjugation of a verb he knows no more than of the most abstruse problem in Euclid. The state of education all over the Presidency was more or less the same as in Bellary. Sir Thomas Munroe attributed the low state of education all over the Presidency to the absence of any sufficient encouragement and to the poverty of the people. "The difficulties", he observed, "may be gradually surmounted. The hindrance which is given to education by the poverty of the people may, in a great degree, be removed by the endowment of schools throughout the country by Government and the want of encouragement will be remedied by good education being rendered more easy and general and by the preference which will naturally be given to well educated men in all the Public Offices."

School for Teachers

He proposed the establishment of a school at Madras for the purpose of educating teachers for employment in Government schools of which he suggested that two schools should be founded in each collectorate. Applying for an annual grant of Rs. 50,000 for educational purposes to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, Sir Munroe observed "whatever expense the Government may incur in the education of the people would be amply repaid by the improvement of the country; for the general diffusion of knowledge is inseparably followed by increasing industry, by a taste for the comforts of life, by exertion to acquire them and by the growing prosperity of the people." Munroe's proposal was accepted by the other member of the Government, and a committee of Public Instruction was formed with a view to improving the general education of the people in the Presidency. The committee never tried to impose its views on the people. In all communications it laid great stress on securing the sympathy and co-operation of the people. "Whatsoever system might be formed to facilitate the education and mental improvement of the population, success in its operation must, in a great measure depend, as much on a co-operation on the part of the people, as on the munificence of the Government itself; and with reference to arrangements to be adopted they urged that it should be invariably kept in mind, that no measures could be pursued, whatever advantages they might offer, which were

at variance with the customs and prejudices of the people. Such obstacles must be carefully avoided. Every measure must, as much as possible, be divested of the odium of innovation, and be such as to induce people to go along with the Government in its undertaking."

What they Aimed at

The Government was most anxious to impart education of the Western type to the higher classes of persons possessing leisure and natural influence over the minds of their countrymen as it felt that by raising the standard of education among them it would eventually produce a greater and more beneficial change in the ideas and feelings of the community than one could hope to produce by acting directly on the more numerous classes. It was again the sincere hope of the Government that the intelligent people who had been thus educated may as teachers in schools and colleges, or as writers and translators of useful books, contribute in an eminent degree to the more general extension among their countrymen of a portion of their acquirements they had themselves gained, and may communicate in some degree to the native literature and to the minds of the native community that improved spirit which it was hoped they would themselves have imbibed from the influence of European ideas and sentiments.

The absence of a vernacular literature and the impossibility of producing translations of western science and literature within a short period necessitated the use of English as the medium of instruction. But it was always hoped that the vernaculars would ultimately become the media of instruction.

Opposed English Medium

As late as 1851 when proposals for establishing a University had been agreed upon, Sir Henry Pottinger, Governor of Madras, said that "my own firm persuasion is, from past personal experience, as well as from enquiry and reading of the reports, that good and careful translations from English into the vernacular dialects must after all be the chief channel of instruction and of communication of knowledge to the great body of population of Southern India" Mr. Thomas, the then Chief Secretary, also agreed with Mr. Pottinger on the importance of vernacular education. He was of the opinion that the system which had been adopted both in this and in the Bengal Presidency, and "which contemplates only the imparting of a high measure of education to a few, exclusively through the medium of English, must fail to produce any great or general effect upon the national mind. "It appears to me", he wrote, "to reverse the natural order of things, and that the attempt to educate and enlighten a nation through a foreign language, is one opposed to the experience of all times and countries. English must ever be, in this land, to the mass, an unknown tongue."

"A smattering of English" he observed "may be acquired by a considerable number about our towns or in immediate communication with the few English residing in India; but the people (the women as well as men) will as a whole only think and speak and read in their native tongues and their general enlightenment or education must and I believe can only be attained through this channel; and a wide basis therefore of a solid, though limited education, through the means of the vernacular languages, must be given to those classes which now receive education, before anything permanent will be effected".

Barren System

"It is upon this broad basis alone, that the superstructure of a high standard and refined education can, it appears to me, be raised and the superior acquirements of the few very highly educated be made to tell upon and influence society. For let us suppose that we have some tens or even crores of youths, out of a population of millions, masters of the higher sciences, well acquainted with all the beauties of Shakespeare, of Milton, and with the learning of Bacon and with the great master minds of Europe, and the rest of the people, not the lowest classes alone, left in their hereditary ignorance, and that ignorance-Asiatic". How, I would ask, is this mass, wholly unprepared by even an elementary education in western learning, to understand and appreciate the acquirements of the highly educated man or how is he to communicate his high attainments in science and literature to them and what possible influence would he therefore

exercise over them? In Europe, the bulk of the population who receive an education have ordinarily some elementary instruction in the higher sciences—in Astronomy, Natural Philosophy; and individuals throughout all grades of society have, some more, some less knowledge of the higher sciences, and in many cases a considerable degree of science acquirement, which enables and qualifies some in all ranks to appreciate more or less fully the highest discoveries and attainments in science. There is, consequently, a connecting link, running through all society there, which conveys the highest truths of science in an elementary form to all grades, and the acquisitions of the most advanced minds can be, and are, appreciated by those immediately below them, and through them they filter down to the lower grades, who are prepared in their measure, by elementary instruction to receive them.

"But what is the case in this country? High acquirements in science or literature will be appreciated and understood by none, but a few alone highly educated. There is a broad, and impassable line between them and all others. I cannot but think it almost certain therefore, that the only result of a system, which educates a few highly, and leaves the rest of the population without even elementary instruction, is to render all the superior acquirements of that few (made moreover at an enormous cost to the State) barren and fruitless as to any general influence upon society.

Isolated Class

"The youths or men so advanced will exist in a great measure, only as a small isolated class, despising others and neither appreciated, nor esteemed by their fellow countrymen. This must be so far as I can see my way, the inevitable consequence of a system which provides only for the superior education of the few and makes no simultaneous provision upon a large scale for the instruction of the many".

"I need scarcely add, after this statement of my views, that I entirely agree in the importance of a thorough education of the people in their vernacular tongues. It is by this means that they can be taught either to make or understand the translations from western literature and it is through this channel alone there can be the slightest prospect of reaching the women of the country, for they must, it is beyond question, receive all the knowledge they have time and opportunity to acquire, through their mother tongue. If they are neglected, and they remain wholly uneducated, it may safely be predicted that India will continue, as the rest of Asia, in its semi-barbarous ignorance. I consider therefore instruction in the vernaculars to be essential, and that without it a scheme of education will be most limited or partial in its effects, and of comparatively little value."

Encouraged local languages

It must be evident from the foregoing that the English were quite convinced that ultimately only the vernacular languages could be the media of instruction and they did everything possible to encourage the development of vernacular literature. It is rather unfortunate that the educated classes did not very much bother to transmit through translation the benefits of their knowledge to the masses. It redounds to the credit of the English that their language was never substituted for the vernacular languages of the country and they introduced it where there was a demand. They encouraged a study of the vernacular *pari passu* with English.

It is one thing to learn English as a language and quite another to have it as the medium of instruction. Learning through a foreign medium encourages cramming and inhibits original thinking the learner concentrates on expression rather than content. English must be learnt as a language as it is an open sesame to science and technology but it need not be the educational medium. It was made the medium in the nineteenth century as the Eastern literature then was very deficient in modern discoveries and improvements and as there were no satisfactory translations. The 1854 Despatch from the Court of Directors of the East India Company strongly advocated the enrichment of the vernacular language. *Inter alia* the Despatch says "It is neither our aim nor desire to substitute the English language for the vernacular dialects of the country. We have always been most

sensible of the importance of the use of the languages which alone are understood by the great mass of the population. These languages, and not English, have been put by us in the place of Persian in the administration of justice, and in the intercourse between the officers of Government and the people. It is indispensable, therefore, that in any general system of education the study of them should be assiduously attended to. And any acquaintance with improved European knowledge which is to be communicated to the great mass of the people, whose circumstances prevent them from acquiring a higher order of education, and who cannot be expected to overcome the difficulties of a foreign language, can only be conveyed to them through one or other of these vernacular languages.

The proper medium

"In any general system of education, the English language should be taught where there is a demand for it ; but such instruction should always be combined with a careful attention to the study of the vernacular language of the district, and with such general instruction as can be conveyed through that language. At the same time, and as the importance of the vernacular languages becomes more appreciated, the vernacular literatures of India will be gradually enriched by translations of European books, or by the original compositions of men whose minds have been imbued with the spirit of European advancement, so that European knowledge may gradually be placed in this manner within the reach of all classes of the people. We look, therefore, to the English language and to the vernacular languages of India together as the MEDIA for the diffusion of European knowledge."

The sense of fair play and justice of the English is vividly brought out in this extract.

No Alternative

It is often contended that there are not good translations to justify a change over to the regional medium. Authors won't come forward to undertake translations unless there is a demand and there won't be a demand unless the medium is changed. This is a vicious circle. A beginning has to be made and the progress will have to be necessarily slow as otherwise any small mistake would affect generation of students. While speed can be justified in other fields, it can never be justified in the sphere of education where all concerned must hasten slow.

The zealots of nationalism assert that the Zeitgeist is against English and hence must be elbowed out of existence. In the Kingdom of Knowledge there can be no frontiers and the principle of peaceful co-existence is applicable to languages as it is to countries.

BHILAI PLANT COMPLETED

With the commissioning of the Merchant Mill the last of the rolling mills—the construction of the entire Bhilai Steel Plant has been completed. This mill will turn out 2,55,000 tons of finished steel every year.

Bhilai Steel Works are designed to produce annually one million tons of steel to be rolled into 770,000 tons of marketable products including rails and railway bars, beams and other heavy structurals and billets for re-rolling mills. Capacity of the plant will be expanded to 2½ million tons under the Third Five-Year Plan.

Meanwhile the Bhilai Steel Works had produced up to December 1960 about 978,000 tons of pig iron and 340,000 tons of steel. About 565,000 tons of pig iron and 245,000 tons of steel products have been despatched to consumers all over India. About 96,000 tons of pig iron and 15,000 tons of steel billets have also been exported from Bhilai to Pakistan, Japan and United Kingdom.

Madras Beckons . . . .

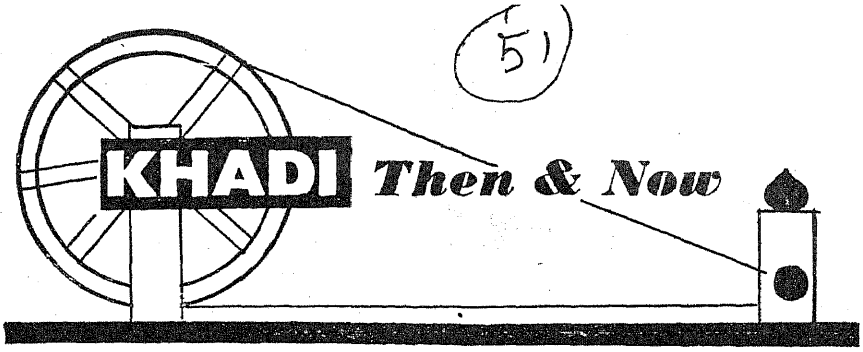
* * * *The temples of Madras, nestling against swaying palms, their tall towers standing as sentinels of an ancient civilisation which is very much alive and their huge halls and corridors proclaiming the deftness and dexterity of the sculptor, constitute the centre and source of a cultural and religious tradition which, though it has fitted itself into the changing pattern of modern life and living, yet remains picturesquely distinct.*

* * * *The hill stations of Ooty and Kodaikanal, with their invigorating climate and scenic splendours are ideal for rest and recreation. Their wooded slopes and majestic peaks, their grand waterfalls and picturesque lakes hold the visitors in thrall.*

* * * *Lovers of wild life may get endless thrills through a visit to Mudumalai situated in the Nilgiris. Here they can see elephants and bears, tigers and bisons, etc., in their natural home. Facilities for seeing wild animals are provided to visitors Vedanthangal near Madras is a bird sanctuary where a visitor can see a variety of birds*

* * * *Besides these, Madras provides the tourist a variegated fare. All the year round there are fairs and festivals which bring to life stories and traditions, arts and rituals of a long past age which have an allure all their own. They delight, educate and also entertain.*

A VISIT TO MADRAS WILL BE REWARDING



KHADI Then & Now

R. PARTHASARATHI, B.A., B.L.,
Director of Khadi.

FOUR decades ago when Gandhiji rediscovered the Charkha and brought it out from oblivion, he offered it to the unemployed in the villages as a means of employment. The coarse cloth woven out of the thick yarn produced on the Charkha then brought new life to the villages. Khadi was then considered a symbol of nationalism and of patriotic spirit and as the uniform for the non-violent fighters of freedom. Khadi had then acquired a national significance.

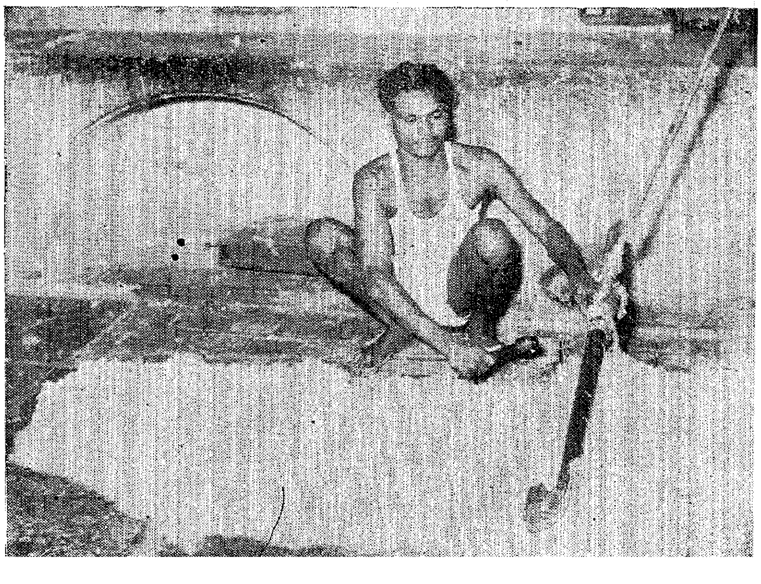
But Gandhiji himself never stressed the political aspect of Khadi. On the other hand, he put the Khadi programme as one of the chief planks of the constructive programme, as a means to relieve unemployment and poverty in the villages. Whatever political significance might have been attached to Khadi then, it has gradually disappeared and today the economic aspect which Gandhiji stressed has come to invest it with the importance it deserves in the national economy.

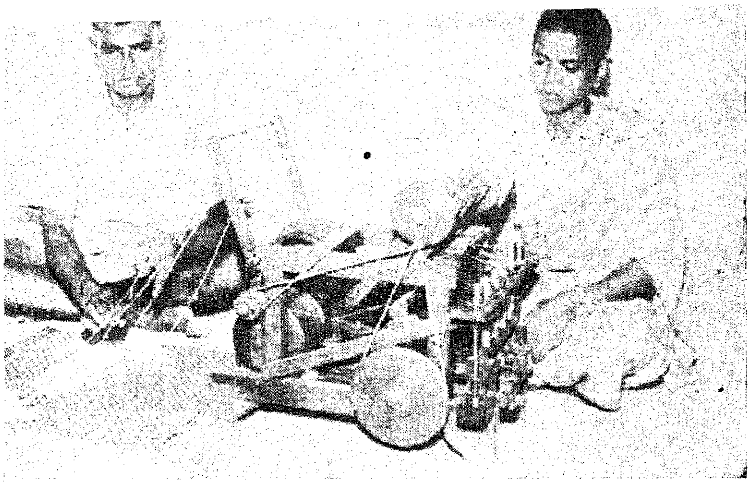
Basic principle

Gandhiji viewed the charkha as the panacea for the unemployment and under-employment for the millions of people in the villages who form 80 per cent of our population. To-day the basic principle which sustains the charkha lies in its economic importance as a simple and easy means of affording relief to millions of unemployed people at comparatively little cost.

Even two decades after Gandhiji had started the Khadi programme, it could be effectively pursued only on a limited scale. The reason is not far to seek; for, from the beginning, such a programme had to fight against odds. Apart from the heavy competition from mill cloth, foreign and Indian, under an alien Government there was not only not any encouragement for the programme but positive discouragement and antipathy. If, in spite of these odds, the charkha took root, it proved only the soundness of its basic concept. It was only after the attainment of Independence that the Khadi programme took rapid strides. Before Independence, the people who benefited by the charkha could be counted in thousands; but after Independence, the number has swelled to lakhs. To-day the Khadi Industry gives employment to nearly 15 lakhs of people all over the country and Khadi production has expanded tenfold since Independence. Nearly 50 million yards of Khadi worth about Rs. 9$\frac{1}{2}$ crores has been produced last year. This year the production is likely to increase by fifty per cent.

A peasant of South Arcot district who earns Rs. 120 per month by carding cotton for the Ambar Charkha





The wife of a Policeman who with her husband's assistance spins on the ambar charkha and earns Rs. 60 per month.

Honoured place

The reason for this tremendous development is not far to seek. When the national Government took over the administration of the country, after Independence, Khadi was given an honoured place. This was done not because of sentiment or past associations but purely because of the duty cast on any responsible democratic Government to seek ways and means to remove poverty and to afford relief to the unemployed people. The charkha offered a ready and simple solution for rural unemployment and the Government naturally recognized its importance in the economy of the country. Economists and Planning experts have recognized the importance of Khadi and village industries and therefore these industries now find a place in our National Plans.

Madras Government's Lead

It was given to the Madras State Government to set an example to other States by taking up the Khadi programme as an integral part of rural development. In 1947, the Government of Madras took over from the All-India Spinners' Association four main centres in two or three districts and took up the Khadi work covering about 136 villages. At that time, there were about 15,000 spinners on the rolls when the Government took over the centres and the spinning wages earned by them was to the tune of Rs. 3 lakhs per year. There were 500 weavers under the Khadi Scheme and they earned Rs. 2½ lakhs as weaving wages per year. To-day the Khadi Scheme has been introduced in all the districts in the State and charkhas have been introduced in 168 blocks. To-day there are 22 Main Centres run by the Department of Khadi alone and 109 sub-centres. There are over 2 lakhs of spinners and nearly 6,000 weavers on the rolls of the department's centres. Besides the Khadi Department, the Tamilnad Sarvodaya Sangh (successor to All-India Spinners' Association and Akihil Bharat Sarva Seva Sangh), Gandhi Ashram Tiruchengode, Gandhigram and other institutions are also engaged in Khadi development in the State. There are now, in the whole State over 4 lakhs of spinners and 10,000 weavers employed in the Khadi industry and Rs. 2½ crores worth of Khadi is being produced annually.

Advent of Ambar Charkha

Most of these 4 lakh spinners use the Kisan Charkha which is of the older type. In 1956, Ambar Charkha which was the original invention of Sri Ekambaranathan who hails from Tirunelveli district was introduced. There are now nearly 20,000 spinners who have taken to the Ambar Charkha in the State. The Khadi Department alone has got 38 Ambar Training Centres (Parishramalayas) where spinners are given three months' training on the Ambar Charkha. The other institutions also have their training centres and have trained an equally large number of Ambar Spinners.

The advantage of the Ambar Charkha is that it can produce more yarn, almost three times, than a Kisan Charkha and an Ambar spinner can earn anywhere between Rs. 1·50 to Rs. 3 per day whereas the spinner on the traditional Charkha can earn only about 8 to 12 annas per day. While the traditional or Kisan Charkha can serve as a useful supplementary occupation in agricultural homes, the Ambar Charkha can also be a whole-time occupation even for men.

Prospects for Khadi

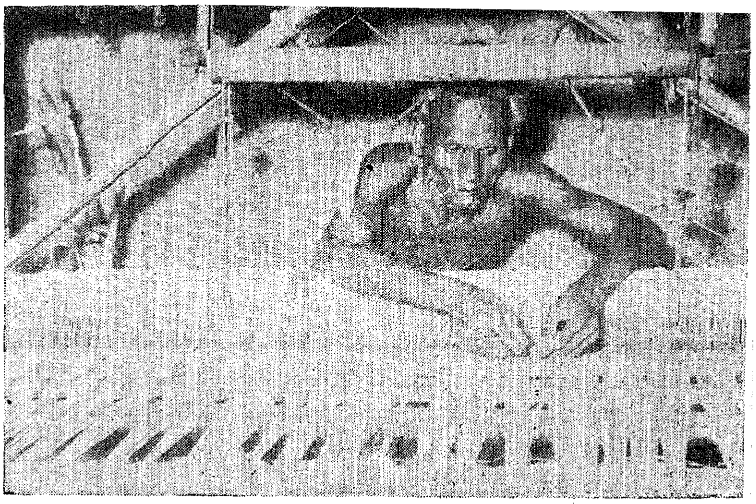
The scope and prospects for Khadi as a village industry are indeed very large and bright; but still the charkha has to go a long way before it can establish itself firmly. From the consumers' point of view, Khadi offers very attractive and colourful varieties now and no longer can the old hackneyed criticism that Khadi is coarse and

cannot satisfy any taste be trotted out. It needs only a visit to any of the Khadi shops to find out if Khadi cannot satisfy any taste and if there are not fine and attractive designs and varieties in Khadi.

The other criticism which still holds sway is that Khadi is costlier than mill or handloom cloth. This of course cannot be denied. But the calculation of cost cannot merely be related to money value. Unemployment costs the nation heavy loss and it has to be borne by the people directly or indirectly. To the extent that Khadi relieves this unemployment, the incidence of the burden on the nation is lessened and therefore the differrence in price of Khadi and other cloth is to be set off against what is a gain by the employment opportunity that Khadi can give. The Central and State Governments and Khadi institutions give a total rebate of 22 naye Paise on all cotton Khadi retail sales and this is an advantage which the consumer gets. The question often asked is why so much money is wasted by way of this rebate which is an artificial prop for Khadi ? This is a fallacious argument. Any infant industry has to have adequate protection from the State and protection is given in a small measure through rebate. Comparatively speaking, the amount involved is very small when other industries are taken into account. The mill industry itself has benefited to the tune of over Rs. 1,200 crores over the past 20 years by way of protective tariffs and other protective measures which have been designed to make the textile mill industry stand on its own legs.

Self-sufficiency Ideal

A re-orientation in the ideal and rethinking of the Khadi concept has recently come over those who are engaged in Khadi work. It is the considered view of Khadi economists and experts



A Khadi Weaver of Ulundurpet who earns Rs. 100 per month

that the basis of Khadi cannot be merely commercial, and it can never be a competitive or commercial industry like many other industries. If it has to have a permanent place in the national economy, it should be integrated with the rural economic structure which envisages all round self-sufficiency in production of essential commodities. Thus Khadi and village industries should be patterned into an economic frame for the villages and the rural population should be able to produce their own cloth as they should be able to grow their own foodgrains and other necessities of life. This would make them less dependent on outside factors and would make them economically independent of the ever changing urban economy. If this idealistic approach should be successfully achieved in practice, there is no need to worry about the future of Khadi. Stress is being laid on this "Naya Mode" or new concept and the Khadi planners and those engaged in Khadi developement are now looking forward to putting it into practice. Then khadi will not need even the type of meagre protection it is getting through rebates and subsidies from Government.

EMOTIONAL INTEGRATION

In order to stress the importance of emotional integration among the youth of the country, the Ministry of Education at the Centre has decided to encourage various co-curricular activities, such as students' camps and social service projects. In addition to these activities, the content of curriculae and programmes of educational activities in Secondary schools would be remodelled so that the Secondary school-leavers acquire a truly national outlook and are fully equipped for functioning in the modern society.

President inaugurates School Improvement Conference

The school improvement movement which began in a small way in 1958 gained such great momentum in 1960 that it stirred the conscience of the people in towns and villages and made them offer their contribution for providing education to the children in the State. It has the ingredients of a minor revolution and has attracted notice from all over India. There have been many conferences during the year. President Prasad himself inaugurated a conference at Vellore in August.

Above: The President inaugurates the Vellore Conference.

Top right: Finance Minister Subramaniam distributes free clothing to poor students at the Uttiramerur Conference.

Bottom right: He is inspecting gift books, school equipment, vessels and other articles exhibited at the conference.

Below: Exhibition of books during the Literary Workshop for Children's literature at Walajabad.

Policeman – friend of the People

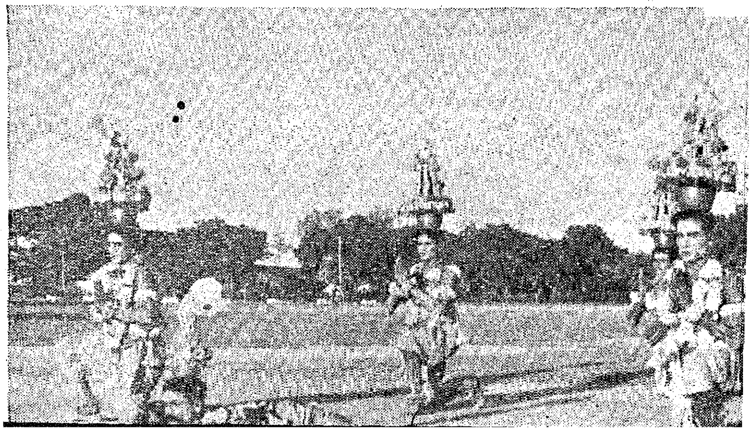
F. V. ARUL, I.P.,
Dy. Inspector-General of Police, Madras.

A policeman is essentially a citizen acting on behalf of fellowcitizens for the common good and is therefore a friend of the people. Unfortunately, there are people who hold the confused view that there is a conflict of interests between a policeman and the public. Such people are obviously prejudiced for some reason or other, for, if a balanced view is taken of the relationship that should subsist between a policeman and the general public, it will be realised that there is an identity of interests. There is no such thing as a public interest and a police interest. The police interest is the public interest and anyone with jaundiced eyes who seeks to divide this interest is certainly doing a disservice to the community. It should therefore be clear that a policeman is motivated entirely by public interest which necessarily makes him a friend of the people.

The protection of life and property of the community and the maintenance of Law and Order are the prime functions of a policeman. His chief role is rather more to prevent the commission of offences than to detect them and it is in this way that the policeman affords protection to the people. The best device that has been adopted by the policeman to prevent the commission of offences is the organisation of beats in all public places. If the citizen is able to go about his work in lonely places or to sleep peacefully at home after a day's hard work, it is due to the policeman who covers his beat with unremitting toil. Those of you who have seen the film entitled " Ungal Nanban " (Your Friend) will appreciate from the opening scenes that the beat constable plods his weary way in the middle of night even though his own family members may be seriously sick at home. It will be proper for me to quote the following lines from the dedication to " The History of the Madras Police" which was published during the Centenary of the Madras Police last year to illustrate this aspect of service by policemen to the people :—

" Once more we see them in their sojournings, now shivering with wet and cold, now scorched by a pitiless and burning sun; uncomplaining, they endure stress and strain and at the last even wounds and death."

The police are not enforcers of law alone. They are alive to the cultural aspects of life also. Picture shows a group of the special Armed Police performing the 'Karagam' folk dance during a camp at Avadi.



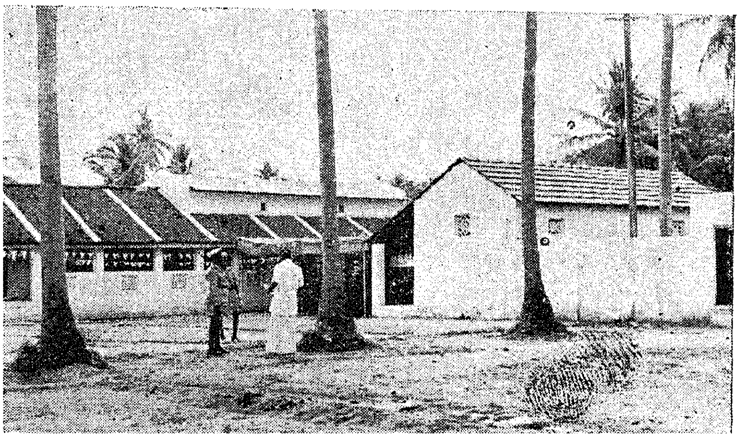
These lines bring to my mind very vivid'y the case of Constable Rathnam of the Madras City Police who, while walking his beat some years ago, came across a robber attempting to despoil a defenceless woman at the point of a knife. He immediately sprang to her defence but was fatally stabbed by his adversary. The Constable thus heroically gave his life for the safety of a woman. If this is how he functions, can a policeman be considered in any light except that of a genuine friend of the people ?

In Enforcing Law

It is true that sometimes a policeman has to be very firm in upholding the law. He is after all carrying out his duty. He should not, for this reason, be considered an enemy of the people. The Law has been enacted by representatives of the people for the good of the community and therefore even though certain aspects of it may not be quite agreeable to individuals, it has got to be enforced for the good of the people as a whole. The policeman who enforces such laws is therefore not inimical to the people. It is, of course, true that a policeman should adopt a friendly approach to the people when enforcing such laws. This lesson is being taught continously to policemen and if an odd one among them defaults in this respect, the people should not jump to the conclusion that the police as a whole are unfriendly.

The role of a friend is perhaps fulfilled best when a policeman undertakes traffic duty. He guides both vehicles and pedestrains including frail persons and children on the roads so that order is maintained and no harm comes to them. At this moment I have in my mind's eye a cartoon of a policeman holding up a huge stream of vehicular traffic to allow a column of ducklings to cross an intersection from one side to the other.

A view of the Care Home for Beggars in Little Kancheepuram.



The police have evinced keen interest in Social Service too. A Government Care Home for Beggars at Little Conjeevaram, a product of their efforts, was opened by Home Minister Bhaktavatsalam in June last.

This typifies the task of a policeman as a friend of all weak and defenceless beings in a very characteristic manner.

Friend in need

A policeman is a friend of the people at all times, but this is most evident in times of natural calamities like storms, cyclones, floods, famines and so on. The recent floods in Madras City and in the districts are a case in point. Thousands of huts were destroyed or badly damaged and tens of thousands of people were rendered homeless and hungry. Without the slightest consideration for personal safety or comfort, policemen rallied to their cause, rescued many of them who had been marooned, saw to their accommodation in Police Stations and schools, distributed milk to their children and prepared food for large numbers of them. This was done for several days entailing great strain and stress which they endured without any complaint. The poor people of Madras City and in the districts realised as never before that the policeman is a true and sincere friend.

In the growth of a Welfare State, social service plays a prominent part in the regeneration of

the homeless, juvenile delinquents, fallen women and girls and slum dwellers. The policeman becomes a repository of the confidence of many of these down-and-outs and several human dramas unfold before his eyes when some of these pitiable specimens of humanity express their sorrows. A matrimonial tangle ends in the attempt at suicide by the weaker of the two; the policeman who is apprised of it helps to straighten it out. A run-away son returns home after committing theft and the parents solicit the help of a policeman to rehabilitate the young man. In such kindred matters, the policeman is the first social worker who does his little bit to put things right. In all these ways the policeman befriends the people and seeks to serve them.

It is one of the distinguishing marks of a free country that men and women who obey the laws that they themselves have made through their elected representatives have nothing to fear from a policeman. In fact, there is something more than absence of fear in the relationship between a policeman and the people and that is friendliness. Indeed, a policeman in independent India is a friend of the people.

NOW METRIC SYSTEM IN POST OFFICES

Since February 1st, all postal transactions have changed over to the Metric System. Some of the important revised Postage Rates are as follows:—

INLAND

LETTERS
- First 15 grammes .. .. 15 nP.
- Each additional 15 grammes .. 10 nP.

PACKETS
- First 50 grammes .. .. 8 nP.
- Each additional 25 grammes .. 3 nP.

PARCELS
- Each 400 grammes or part .. 50 nP.

AIR SURCHARGE FOR PACKETS
- For each 10 grammes or part .. 4 nP.

FOREIGN

LETTERS
- First 20 grammes .. .. 30 nP.
- Each additional 20 grammes .. 20 nP.

PRINTED MATTER, ETC.
- First 50 grammes .. .. 12 nP.
- Each additional 50 grammes .. 6 nP.
- Minimum charge for commercial papers and samples .. 30 nP.

FOR DETAILS AND OTHER RATES, PLEASE CONSULT ANY POST OFFICE

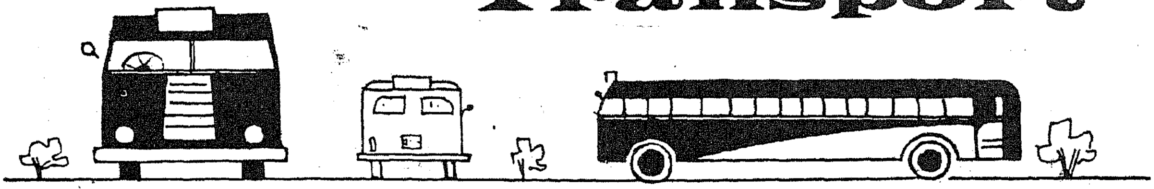
POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Sixth All-India Tribal Welfare Conference

The sixth All-India Tribal Conference was held at Ooty in May 1960. Picture above shows a procession organised during the Conference. From top to bottom left: Vice-President Radhakrishnan inaugurating the Conference; a section of the tribal audience; tribal dances (two pictures). Below: Prime Minister Nehru presented a jeep to Dr. S. Narasimhan in March last at Kundah in recognition of his social service among three Nilgiri hill tribes. Three prominent tribal leaders are also in the picture.

MADRAS INFORMATION
Vol. XV No. 2. Feb. 1961

State Transport



T. SRINIVASAN, I.A.S.,
Director, State Transport Department.

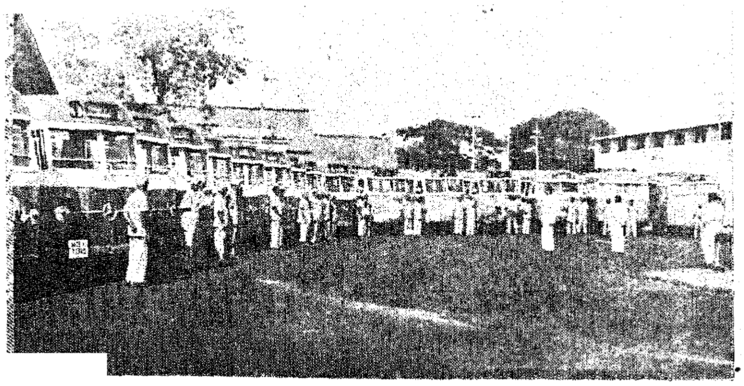
THE General Committee of Post-war reconstruction resolved on 28th December 1944, that the Post-war period Public passenger transport service of the Presidency should be owned and managed by the State itself and recommended to Government to take immediate steps to work out detailed plans for—

(i) Taking over existing bus service, (ii) drawing plans of opening new services over routes not served by existing companies, and (iii) working out service conditions on a uniform standard. In pursuance of this, in December 1946, the Madras Government decided to nationalise the transport service in the State and appointed a Sub-Committee to work out the details. Based on the findings of the Committee, Government decided to nationalise the service in stages spread over a definite period, and thus nationalisation was started with the first batch of six Government buses put on the road on 24th March 1947. This was progressively increased replacing private operators.

At the end of 1947 Government Bus Service had put on the roads 100 buses which rose to 202 in 1948. At the end of 1948 all private operators had been eliminated from the city routes and the Government fleet strength was 320. The strength further rose to 322 at the end of June 1951. The traffic needs have been increasing and are still increasing and the department also have been consistently increasing the fleet strength from year to year, and the fleet strength by the end of 1960 was 550. Due to nationalisation, buses of various makes and types were taken over and consequently it was found difficult to maintain all the various types of vehicles and get spare parts for them and therefore standardisation of the vehicles was adopted. At present there are only three makes of vehicles and the fleet has been standardised.

More Routes

There were only 17 routes operated in the City by the private operators. As against this, the number of routes operated by the Government transport now is 53. In addition to this, 39 peak hour services and 13 emergency services are also operated. The total number of schedules now operated is 400 of which 306 are in the Madras City alone. Express Services and limited stop services within the city are an important feature of 1959–60, and this is increasingly popular. Eleven Students' specials, the only service of its kind in the whole of India, are also operated and they touch all schools and colleges in the City. After the initial nationalisation in 1946, the next batch of suburban routes introduced was only in 1959 when services were introduced to Red Hills, Lattice Bridge, Villivakkam, Thiruthanni, Sholavaram, Poonamallee and Padappai. Mufassil Services to Kalahasthi, Thiruthanni, Thirupathi, etc., were also introduced. Additional special services are also operated on occasions of fairs, festivals and exhibitions. The Government then considered that



To meet the increasing preasure of City traffic the State Transport Department have been periodically putting new fleets of buses on the roads Picture shows a row of seventeen buses that were commissioned during April last.

long distance services linking important places with in the State and outside the State were necessary. On 1st August 1959 the Express route between Madras and Bangalore was introduced. Following its popularity, more long distance Express routes were introduced from Madras to Tiruchirappalli, Madras to Salem and Madras to Thanjavur. Similarly from Kanyakumari Branch express services were introduced from Nagercoil to Tiruchirappalli via Tirunelveli, Virdhunagar, Madurai and Nagercoil to Tiruchirappalli via Tuticorin, Madurai, Dindigul and Tiruchirappalli. Another express service, the longest of its kind with 290 miles of route mileage has been introduced from Nagercoil to Coimbatore. These services are so popular that there is clamour for more ofs uch services to be opened.

The strength of the employees of all categories which was 2,926 in 1951 is today 4,060. The daily mileage operated was 35,000 miles in 1951-52 which has now increased to about 45,000. The daily earning which was around. Rs. 31,000 in 1951-52 has been increasing year after year and it is nearby Rs. 60,000 in 1960.

Workshop at Chromepet

The entire fleet is now located at the Bodyguard Lines in Mount Road. It is found increasingly difficult for the City service to operate from this depot. Therefore a North Depot at Tondiarpet is proposed to be constructed, on a site of five acres. Ten acres of land have also been acquired near that workshop to provide houses for the employees of the Department. The workers will be enabled to be nearer their place of work and the discomfort to go to the workspot and return will be minimised. Another depot in the South will begin to function soon and there will then be in all three depots including the one at present in Mount Road and it is hoped to cater to the needs of the City without difficulty or interruption. There is a well-equipped workshop at Chromepet, where all kinds of repairs for the vehicles are conveniently carried out. There also the body building shop and the tyre retreading branch in that workshop and the bodies built by the Government Workshop compare quite favourably with the bodies built by other firms. There are 674 workers in this workshop. It is proposed to construct housing accommodation for these workers also near their workshop.

To reduce breakdowns and to attend to vehicles quickly, mobile breakdown squads have been organised with four jeeps fitted with very high frequency wireless sets to contact the control office in the Transport House Depot. This enables instantaneous attention of breakdown vehicles.

Public Amenities

Passenger shelters have been provided at important stops. An enquiry office, canteen, cloak room, washing and bathing facilities have been provided in the Parry's corner. Similar facilities will be provided at Thyagarayanagar, Mint and other important places shortly. For long distance passengers, rest houses are proposed to be constructed at Vellore, Krishnagiri, Salem, Villupuram and Tiruchirappalli. Regulators to arrange 'queues' and help the passengers are posted at important places. At all important stops and places tickets are issued in advance by specially posted stand conductors. Season tickets are issued for some important routes. Vehicles are hired out for public and at concessional rates to educational institutions and a passenger amenities fund has also been created to provide necessary amenities to the travelling public.

Amenities to workers

A well-maintained dispensary with a full-time Medical Officer is working inside the Government Transport House and rendering free medical aid to the workers. The Medical Officer periodically visits State Transport Central Workshop also. At Kanyakumari, a part-time Medical Officer is

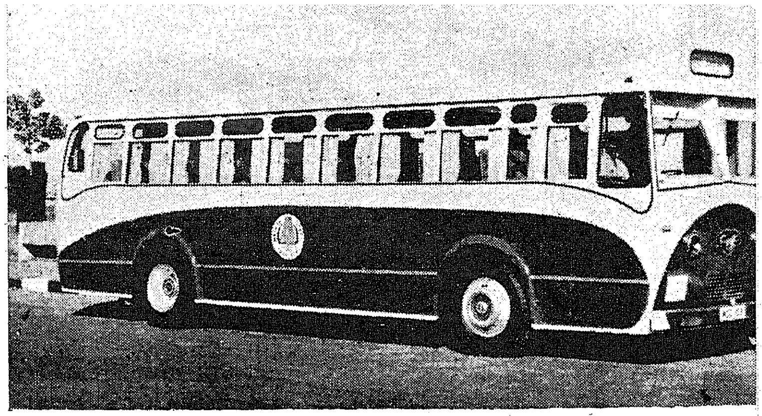
working in the dispensary attached to the department. Other facilities provided are water coolers, free uniforms, stitching charges, washing allowance, medical and educational concessions, reading room and library. Another important and useful amenity provided is free tea for workers working in the night. A recreation club provides recreation facilities. Canteen, rest sheds and credit society are also some of the other facilities afforded to them. A compassionate relief fund has been constituted to help workers or their families in deserving cases.

Kanyakumari Branch

The Kanyakumari Branch of the Madras State Transport Department came into existence on 1st November 1956 consequent on the re-organisation of the States. The Transport Services in the former Travancore-Cochin State were already nationalised and nationalised service in that part of the State constituting the Kanyakumari district was continued to be run by the Madras State. There were 56 services and 68 buses when it was taken over. All of them were over-aged and they have been replaced except a few, in the course of the short spell of four years and the fleet strength now is 90. It was only a collection depot under the former administration and as it is now run as a distinct unit, all the facilities of an independent office of a self-contained unit had to be created. The office buildings were completely remodelled and renovated at a cost of Rs. 75,000. A pucca workshop on an extensive plot of 14 acres has been constructed at Ranithottam about 2 miles away from Nagercoil. As soon as it is commissioned, it will be a self-contained workshop and can cater to the needs of that area. A housing colony for the workers of that branch is also proposed to be constructed near the workshop. The daily collection which was about Rs. 7,000 during former Travancore-Cochin State has now risen to about Rs. 12,000. The punctuality and the cleanliness, with which the State Transport Services in the Kanyakumari unit are run have earned such a great reputation that the public of that area desire nationalisation of more routes.

Heavy Traffic

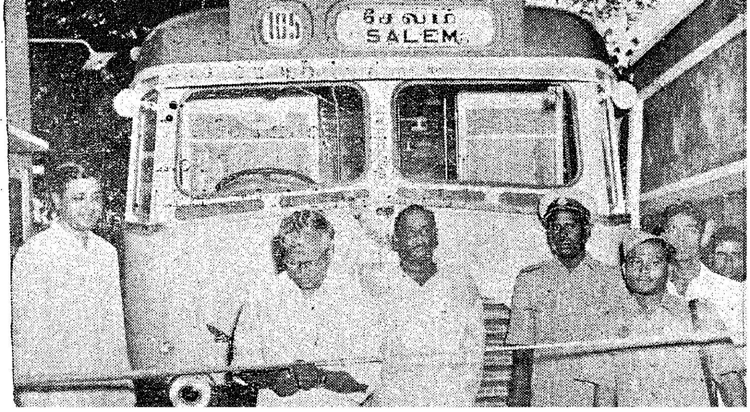
The nationalised transport was begun with only six vehicles and with no stores, no workshop, no equipment and no tools. The transport system in the Madras City is altogether on a footing quite different from those in the other big cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore, etc. Calcutta and Bombay have got the tramways and suburban railways to satisfy the traffic needs of the travelling public. But in Madras the population has enormously increased and the only facility for moving about is the bus transport. Even here the intensity of traffic during peak hours is uni-directional (viz.), from South to North of the City in the morning and *vice versa* in the evening. It will also be seen from the statistics furnished below that the Government and the department have been alive to the responsibility towards the public and their needs in correspondingly increasing their fleet strength and number of services ;—



A luxury coach of the Madras State Transport which is used as an excursion special for Mahabalipuram every Sunday and for private parties on other days.

Year.	Number of buses.	Number of passengers lifted.
1953–54	381	107,816,514
1954–55	402	111 133,840
1955–56	401	116,799,400
1956–57	445	126,904,934
1957–58	450	134,756,822
1958–59	470	138,833,334
1959–60	470	144,931,930

Sri R. Venkataraman, Minister for Industries, inaugurated the Express Service of the Madras State Transport between Madras and Salem on 1st June 1960.



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The average number of passengers lifted in 1960-61 is 427,000 per day and the annual figure will therefore be more than 15 crores and the fleet strength is 550. It will be interesting to know that though the Madras State Transport Department is eighth in the order of fleet strength among the nationalised Transport Undertakings in India, this stands third in the volume of traffic handled. With the narrow roads and the increasing traffic and increased number of buses it is found difficult to accelerate the service with the existing number of stops which are far too many--say about 15 stops within a distance of three miles in some cases. Consequently there is lot of crowding of vehicles in stops creating a jam and affecting the quicker movement of the vehicles.

In a large concern like the Transport department dealing with the public, complaints about the crew are received from the public. Though it cannot be said that such complaints can be completely avoided, yet the public are assured that every complaint is gone into detail and action taken. The Government have also appointed a Public Relations Officer so that there may be more liaison between the Department and the public. It is hoped in the coming years, with the experience the Department has gained in the past and with all the developments and improvements effected, it will be able to acquit itself well and earn the goodwill and appreciation of the public.

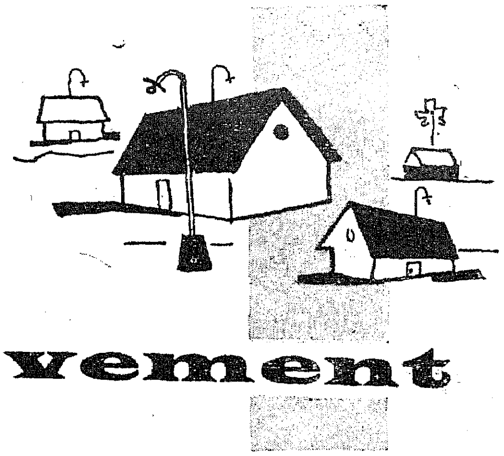
SMALL INDUSTRIES IN BACKWARD AREAS

The Central Small Industries Organisation launched an intensive campaign for the development of small scale industries in backward areas in all States during last year. The object of the campaign was to bring to the very doors of the entrepreneurs Governmental assistance for developing small industries.

The industrial extension service of the organisation rendered technical assistance and guidance to nearly 31,000 small scale units. Nearly 1300 model schemes for the various industries were prepared. While the Design Cell produced a number of improved product designs, increased attention was paid for developing industrial co-operatives.

At the end of 1960, 15 Small Industries Service Institutions, 4 Branch Institutes and 51 Extension Centres were functioning for rendering technical help to small industrialists.

SLUM Improvement



CAPT. D. GNANAOLIVU, M.A., I.A.S.,
Chairman of C.I.T., and Housing Boards.

THE problem of slums is not a new one. Neither is it peculiar to our country. But it assumed more importance and urgency only after our attainment of Independence. Natural calamities like floods and cyclonic winds, that seem to visit the metropolitan areas once in a decade or two, accentuate the problem in all its aspects.

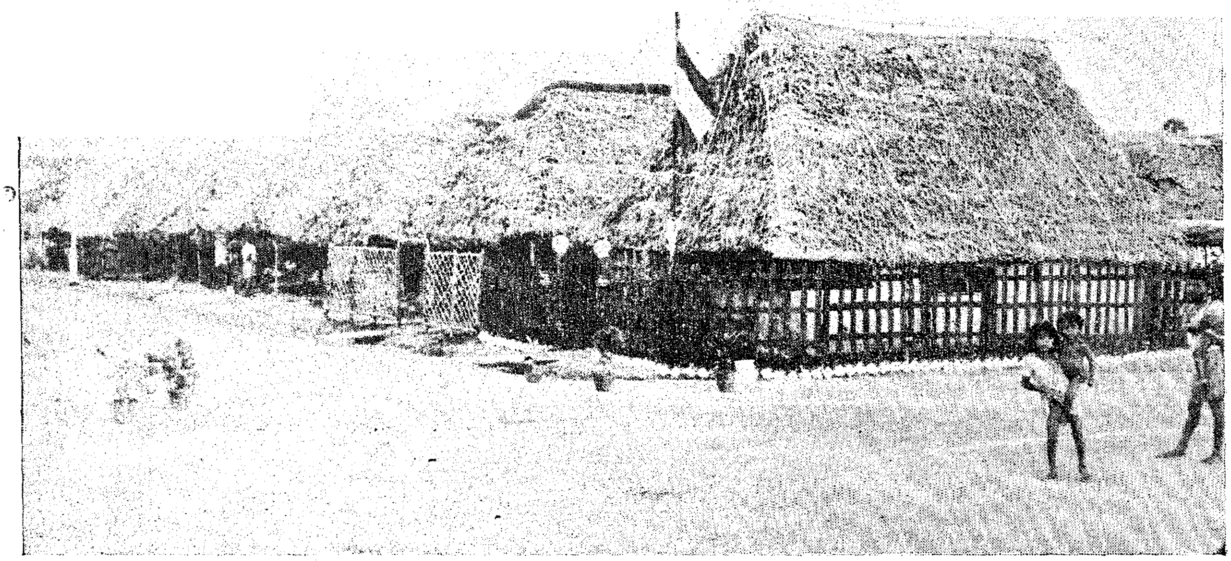
A slum may be defined as a cluster of huts, shacks and jerry-buildings of all shapes and sizes, highly overcrowded, with no proper access to them, without any amenities, and generally in sub-human conditions. The eradication of slums would, therefore, first appear to be a humanitarian problem. But it is not entirely so. Enlightened self-interest will show that the existence of slums near middle class housing areas engenders not only social friction, but also gives rise to economic imbalance. Slums exert a baneful influence on the value of the properties surrounding them. At the same time, it is accepted on all hands that, from a social point of view, the different cross sections of the community should be integrated in composite housing layouts.

Stupendous problem

The City of Madras has about 320 slums, big and small. The total slum population is about three lakhs or about 60,000 families. It will require about 2,000 acres to house them all with minimum health and town-planning standards. This will mean that at least 8,000 acres will have to be acquired in all, in which only about 25 per cent should be set apart for those at present living in slums, as the Madras Government rightly believes in composite layouts, and a mixed society. The cost of acquisition of these 8,000 acres alone may come to Rs. 6 to 8 crores. The cost of development of house-sites for 45,000 families will be about Rs. 4·5 crores (at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per family), and it will cost another Rs. 6 crores to build tenements for the balance of 15,000 families. A socio-economic survey has shown that 25 per cent of dwellers in each slum can afford to pay subsidised rents for pucca tenements. So, in all, if it is stated that Rs. 18 to 20 crores will be required to solve this slum problem in the city, it will indicate the magnitude of the problem—but only from the point of view of finance. Stupendous as this figure is, it is not finance alone that is a bottleneck to the progress in slum improvement work, as is commonly presumed.

Difficulties in the way

The real difficulties in tackling the slums are many and varied, and cover the entire gamut of not only human emotion but also administration, law, and engineering. The foremost among them is the general ignorance of slum dwellers and their gullibility, which is taken advantage of by interested parties, sanghams, and local leaders far their own ends. A second factor is the sense of tradition which makes them resist any attempted change of their residence, even if it be for the better and for their good.



A well-laid out colony of huts with all amenities provided was opened at Puliyur as part of the City Slum Improvement Scheme.

The Slum Improvement Clearance Scheme which is a centrally-sponsored scheme (under which the Union Government gives $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent loan, and $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent subsidy and the State Government a matching 25 per cent subsidy), lays down rightly as the first pre-requisite, that the density of the slums taken up for improvement should be reduced. The existing density in Madras slum areas ranges from about 50 to 200 families per acre. As against this, the above Scheme permits only a density of 20–25 for pucca, single-storeyed tenements, and 30–35 for double-storeyed tenements. As for huts in open developed plots, the enforced reduction in density means that every slum family (average five persons) must be given about 1,000 to 1,200 square feet of land.

Basic Question

The local authorities are one with Union Government, and the town-planning, housing and health experts, that it is essential first to relieve congestion in slums in any scheme designed to improve them. The necessary corollary to this decision is, that 40 to 50 per cent of the occupiers of every slum have to be evicted and shifted to neighbouring areas. Unfortunately, most of the slum dwellers are reluctant to leave their accustomed areas, just as it happens even in New York and London. The authorities are aware of the facile suggestions of arm-chair critics that the density should be allowed to continue as it is, that some amenities by way of a few lights and taps should be provided and the areas allowed to deteriorate further. But one is unable to accept this position, though Government are not against the provision of a few temporary amenities which, however, will not be eligible for any loan or grant from Delhi. The Union and State Governments are willing to allot more than adequate funds for improving slums, but it is felt that such improvements should be carried out as a permanent measure, and as per the opinion of experts, and not as per the dictates of slum dwellers who, in their ignorance, demand many things which are not in their real interests. The latter course will be like a patient prescribing medicine for himself !

Need for Co-operation

Therefore, one has to appeal to all slum dwellers, their Sangams, and leaders, as well as to leaders

of public opinion, to co-operate fully with the Government, the Madras Corporation, and the C.I.T., by not obstructing the present schemes—for which a total sum of Rs. 168 lakhs has been allotted in the Second Five-Year Plan. Out of the sanctioned number of 4,677 plots, 1,932 have been developed with amenities till now. Out of the sanctioned 1,822 tenements, 722 tenements have been completed, and 400 more are under active construction by the Madras Corporation and the C.I.T. A majority of them will be ready for occupation in about three months. The State Housing Board recently asked the two agencies not only to execute their slum schemes more energetically, but asked them to draw in full from Government all the moneys which they had already spent. In view of the Government decision of last year to place some funds at the disposal of four big mofussil towns also for the improvements of their worst slums, it may be possible to spend about Rs. 120 lakhs out of the Second Five-Year Plan allocation of Rs. 168 lakhs usefully, and in a permanent way, before March 1961. Similarly, during the Third Five Year Plan also, a sum of Rs. 300 lakhs will be available for the slums. But, if this proposal is to result in success, the slum dwellers, their Sangams, and local leaders must understand the Slum Improvement Scheme of the Union Government and its implications, and try their best to co-operate and utilize the amounts fully.

Construction of Tenements

Tenements for slum dwellers, at a total cost of Rs. 70 lakhs, are under active construction in Madras City by the Corporation and the C.I.T. Here again the minimum standards of space and strength have been laid down by the Union Government, and though only 37½ per cent of the cost, i.e., loan portion, has to be returned to Delhi in the course of thirty years, the subsidised rent works out to about Rs. 12·50 per month. At least 30 to 40 per cent of the slum dwellers of Madras, who pay actually Rs. 6 to 8 per month for site alone, and then put up their own huts which they maintain spending about Rs. 60 or 70 per year, can easily take to these pucca tenements with a separate kitchen, bath, and latrine without having to worry about their maintenance. If they are given the correct lead, thousands of them in the course of the next six or seven years will attain a much better standard of living. The Government have sanctioned side by side slum improvement schemes on "the open-plot system" to cover, by stages, 60 to 70 per cent of hut dwellers who need pay only about Rs. 3 as monthly lease rent.

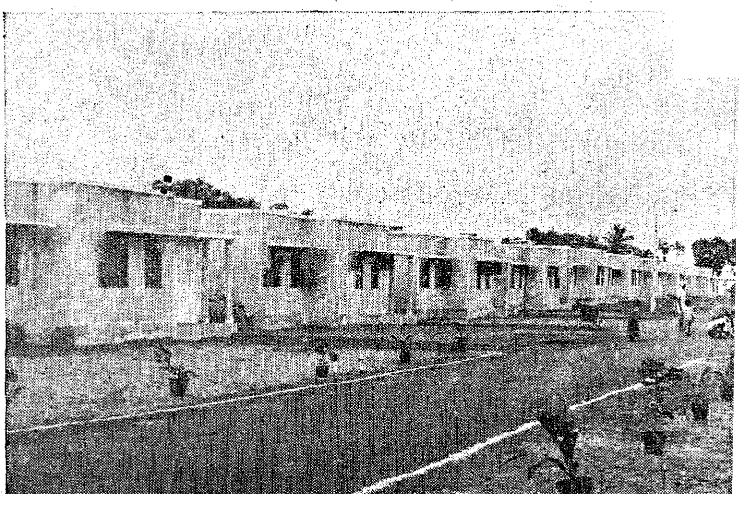
System of Development

This system of development consists of providing pucca, individual baths and latrines, and public roads, water-supply, and lighting. To help construction of the hut by the slum family on a raised mud plinth in the open plot, thatch, bamboo, rope, R.C. Ventilators, all worth Rs. 125 and a few lorry-loads of mud are given, with Rs. 25 cash each. The ceiling fixed by the Union Government for an open plot is Rs. 1,250, and for a tenement Rs. 3,300. Both will be given on subsidised lease rents of Rs. 3 and Rs. 12·50 per month, respectively. The Government, after mature consideration, have decided that sale of plots and houses at subsidised cost to slum dwellers will result only in their exploitation by others.

Here again, their opposition to getting rehabilitated even in nearby places is a great difficulty in the way of quick implementation of slum schemes. Meenambal Sivaraj Nagar Slum by the Corporation, and Namasivayapuram Slum by the C.I.T., have no doubt taken two years for improvement at a total expenditure of nearly Rs. 12 lakhs on the open-plot system, with huts and amenities. But, there have been innumerable obstacles in the way, which have caused delay in execution.

Among the administrative problems may be included the delays in land acquisition proceedings,

The new colony at Puliyur constructed under the Low income Group Housing Scheme



law's delays, and non-availability of open spaces close to existing slum areas, to rehabilitate excess families squeezed out when density is reduced.

Administrative Problems

The authorities also face an administrative difficulty in the actual implementation of the slum improvement scheme. More families could be accommodated in the same area if pucca tenements are built, with consequent shifting of a less number of families elsewhere. But, even the minority of slum dwellers who are comparatively better off, are trying to avoid the subsidised tenement rents. To satisfy this agitation, if more open plots with huts and amenities are resorted to, the immediate result will be, a great number of families will be uprooted and transplanted in neighbouring or distant areas as the case may be, and more agitation and obstruction will be offered to the housing agencies! Therefore, after considering every case on its merit, one has to go cautiously in order to minimise the hardship of slum dwellers. The hardship of shifting is temporary, but to make the concerned accept it cheerfully, responsible members of the public must study the scheme, and help the Government, the Corporation and the C.I.T. Then, even police help which has to be requisitioned often now in the interests of the slum dwellers themselves, can also be dispensed with, and lakhs of rupees can be drawn as loan and subsidy both from the Union and the State Governments, more quickly and more usefully, to tackle this problem in which all leaders of all shades of opinion are genuinely interested. It has also to be emphasised that the general approach of the authorities has been only one of Slum "Improvement" and not of "Clearance", excepting in two instances, one caused by military requirements, and another to help a Girls' School to expand.

The engineering problem in relation to slum work is mainly one of keeping down the cost to the absolute minimum, consistent with the basic health and town-planning requirements. What with the spiralling prices of building materials on the one hand, and the paucity of skilled and even unskilled labour on the other, it is now computed that a one-room house with minimum standards will cost not less than Rs. 4,000. Non-availability of certain commodities or suitable economic substitutes have added to the delay in execution.

From the town planning point of view, the absence of a well-thought-out general Master Plan for the City is a great handicap leading to *ad hoc* solutions, which may ultimately do more harm than good.

Prevention of new slums

Prevention, it is said, is better than cure. The prevention of new slums in the City should therefore be attempted *pari passu* with measures for ameliorating existing conditions in the slums, or in housing their excess population elsewhere. For it is common sense that new slums should not be allowed to grow on one side, while on the other, all energy is being bent in improving existing slums! The State Government have bestowed anxious thought on this aspect also, and have adopted suitable measures. Legislation to evict squatters of recent origin from public lands has already been enacted, and a bill to prevent the growth of slums in the future, is on the anvil.

The authorities appeal earnestly to the public, the leaders of various shades of opinion, and the representative organisations of slum dwellers, to co-operate with the housing agencies in pushing through the various slum improvement schemes formulated and sanctioned by the Government from time to time, bearing in mind all the above aspects of this stupendous problem. The provision for slum improvement will be Rs. 3 crores in the Third Five-Year Plan, nearly double the amount provided in the Second Five-Year Plan. But will our efforts achieve double the results?

A factual statement on what happened during the last five years is given below :—

SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN.

Slum Improvement Scheme of Union Government in Madras City.

Pattern of Assistance—		
Loan	$37\frac{1}{2}$	per cent by the Government of India.
Grant	$37\frac{1}{2}$	Do.
Grant	25	Do.
Ceiling cost—	RS.	
Open, developed plots, with hut and pucca bath and F.O.L.	1,250	per plot.
Tenements with amenities.	3,700	per tenement.

(1)	North of Cooum (in-charge of Corporation of Madras). (2)	South of Cooum (in-charge of C.I.T.). (3)	Total. (4)
	NOS.	NOS.	NOS.
Number of Slum dwellers in Madras	200,000	100,000	300,000
Number of Slum families in Madras	40,000	20,000	60,000
	(RS. IN LAKHS.)	(RS. IN LAKHS.)	(RS. IN LAKHS.)
Total allocation in Second Plan	112·00	56·00	168·00
Amount utilised in Second Plan up to 31st October 1960	40·31	37·90	78·21
Amount likely to be utilised upto 31st March 1961	50·00	50·00	100·00
Balance of allocation available in Madras	62·00	6·00	68·00
Likely to be given to Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Salem, etc., before 31st March 1961.	..	..	20·00
Total balance likely to remain unspent in Second Plan	..	..	48·00
	NOS.	NOS.	NOS.
Number of open plots developed	972	960	1,932
Number of tenements constructed	222	500	722
		RS.	
Monthly rent per open developed plot, with hut and bath and F.O.L.	..	3·00 per mensem.	..
Monthly rent per tenement with amenities	..	12·50 per mensem, likely to be reduced by one or two rupees for two or three years to begin with.	

SOIL CONSERVATION

The Government of India is considering a centrally sponsored programme of assistance to the States for soil conservation in the catchment areas of River Valley Projects during the Third Plan.

The proposed allocation for the programme in the Third Plan is Rs. 11 crores. According to the present estimates Bhakra and Beas Dam would get Rs. 2·8 crores for soil conservation, DVC Rs. 2-5 crores, Hirakud Rs. 2 crores, Machkund Rs. 1 crore, and Chambal Rs. 0·73 crore. It is also expected that a whole-time officer will be appointed in the Central Water and Power Commission of the Union Ministry of Irrigation and Power for reviewing the progress of the Soil Conservation Programme in various States.

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